



Rabbi Shlomo Goren aids Industry Minister Ariel Sharon light the Hanukkah in Sharon's Moslem quarter home last night as Premier Yitzhak Shamir looks on. Outside, demonstrators protest the minister's decision to move into the quarter.

(Roni Naaman/Media, Rabatim, Israeli)

Protests outside as Sharon lights candle

By ANDY COURT

For The Jerusalem Post
Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon lit the first candle of Hanukkah yesterday evening in his home in Jerusalem's Moslem Quarter as Prime Minister Shamir and a large number of right-wing politicians looked on. Some 300 policemen patrolled nearby rooftops and alleyways.

The prelude to the ceremony was a day of disturbances in east and north Jerusalem, which had been quiet compared to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Stones and an iron pipe were thrown at Israeli cars and buses, shattering several windows but causing no injuries. A general strike closed down shops and

schools in East Jerusalem.

As Peace Now demonstrators shouted on one side of the steps outside Damascus Gate and members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement shouted on the other side, Sharon's guests entered the heavily guarded Old City.

The male guests were in jackets and ties and the women in furs and long dresses. They entered the dilapidated doorway of the building at 35 Rehov Hagai, the building, which belongs to a charitable Jewish trust, houses both nationalist yeshiva students and Arab residents, many of whose families have lived there since before the 1948 war.

Police broke down the door and

(Continued on Page Five)

What if an Arab wanted to move to the Jewish Quarter?

A senior government official discussing the movement of Jews into Jerusalem's Moslem Quarter several years ago, said he would be embarrassed if he were asked what would happen if an Arab wanted to move into the Jewish Quarter. "I would stammer," he said. "A country in our position does a lot of stammering."

Some 5,500 Arabs, most of them refugees from the War of Independence, were forced to leave their homes in the 1970s, albeit with compensation, to make way for the restored Jewish Quarter. This uproot-

ing was supported even by most of the Israeli left on grounds they felt to be morally sustainable — namely, that the realities of life in a city like Jerusalem necessitated a clear divi-

COMMENT
Abraham Rabinovich

sion of living space between Arabs and Jews.
The restored Jewish Quarter was twice the size it had shrunk to on the

(Continued on Back Page)

South Korean elections today

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea's major presidential candidates made their last-minute appeals to the voters yesterday as 25 million people prepared to go to the polls today for the first direct election in 16 years.
Roh Tae Woo, Kim Young Sam and Kim Dae Jung all said at news conferences that they were confident of winning the country's first direct election for head of state since 1971.

Analysts expect a tight race, with the winner likely to get less than 40 per cent of votes cast — a development which observers said could provoke renewed student unrest or intervention by the military.

Roh, a 55-year-old ex-general who is outgoing President Chun Doo Hwan's hand-picked choice to succeed him, said the nation should accept the decision of the voters no matter who wins.

Opposition politicians and the National Movement for Democracy (NMD), which led the June protests, have alleged that the government is preparing to win the election by vote-buying and intimidation, but Roh appealed to the 25.8 mil-

lion eligible voters to monitor the voting process to ensure fairness.

Kim Dae Jung, 64, a veteran opponent of successive military-backed regimes, yesterday openly attacked Kim Young Sam, 59, for the first time since campaigning officially began one month ago.

He accused his former ally of spreading rumours that he was going to withdraw from the race and endorse his candidacy.

Kim Dae Jung gave reporters copies of leaflets that read: "Mr. Kim Dae Jung declares withdrawal of his candidacy."

A spokesman for Kim Young Sam denied the charge, saying no such leaflets had been printed.

The other two candidates in the race for a single five-year term as president are former premier Kim Jong Pil and a cult leader, Shin Chong Il.

The election is the result of mass anti-government demonstrations last June which forced Roh and the government to agree to scrap a rubber-stamp electoral college and replace it with direct presidential elections.

Palestinians claim seven shot dead by army

Four die as Strip still flares

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER and BRADLEY BURSTON

Jerusalem Post Reporters
GAZA — Four Palestinians died and 11 were wounded as clashes between IDF troops and demonstrators throughout the Gaza Strip made yesterday the bloodiest day in a week of unrest in the territories.

UN and IDF sources reported a total of four dead, while Palestinians gave the names of seven dead from yesterday's confrontations. Two IDF soldiers were lightly injured.

According to IDF figures, a total of 11 have been killed since the violence began on the West Bank and Gaza last week.

One of yesterday's fatalities was Abdullah Abu Hussini, 27, who died in an Ashkelon Hospital of wounds incurred in Khan Yunis four days ago.

The widespread unrest in Gaza reflected a determination in the population far more extreme than that in the West Bank, where a

sharp downturn in violent incidents was evident.

Large-scale demonstrations, and confrontations with troops, were reported in at least eight locations around the Gaza Strip. Reporters saw burning tyres and metal debris blocking dozens of intersections on the main coastal road, Gaza City streets, and refugee camp entrances.

Black smoke from the barricades hovered over the refugee camps. Youths, emboldened and angered by the deaths of other Palestinians, boasted that they no longer feared facing the rifles of troops.

Many of the 60,000 Gazans who work in Israel stayed home yesterday. Demonstrations and army blockades closed off camp entrances. Shops in Gaza City were closed in a commercial strike, as were shops in many refugee camps.

Gaza youths twice turned on newsmen, attacking *New York Times* correspondent John Kifner at Shifa Hospital, and throwing stones at a television news crew.

Late last night there were unconfirmed reports that thousands had

joined a march on Gaza's Shifa Hospital from Beit Hanoun refugee camp.

"I'm very afraid. It seems to be just a general breakdown of law and order or a popular uprising in Gaza, whichever way you want to look at it," said Bernard Mills, director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in Gaza. He said IDF efforts to stop the disturbances were like "draining the ocean with a sieve."

Said another UN official, "Much older people are getting involved. It had been a children's crusade. But now it's the population as a whole."

Mills charged that UNRWA eyewitnesses had seen Gaza youths being tied across the bonnets of army jeeps in order to give security forces in the vehicles safe entry into town's refugee camps. He said he had observed a dozen people ranging in age from 15 to 40 being escorted by IDF troops out of Deir el Balah refugee camp after a clash yesterday morning, their faces swollen and bleeding.

Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron blamed the unrest on a "small

minority" of inciters.

Touring Gaza yesterday afternoon with O/C Southern Command Yitzhak Mordechai, under extremely heavy guard, Shomron said: "The IDF will restore order here in the clearest terms possible. In fact, although the area is not entirely quiet, the situation is already under control."

"Under no circumstances will we allow a small minority of inciters to rule over the vast majority, a majority which is in general pragmatic and wants to live quietly."

"To me, the situation resembles the first days of the (1967) occupation," said Sheikh Mohammed Awad, the head of Al Azhar religious college, the parent institution of Al Azhar University. "The whole population is upset, it is an uprising."

Al Azhar was closed yesterday, and morning clashes with security forces left broken glass and burnt timbers on the streets outside the building.

The violence began early in the morning at Beit Hanoun, where Talal Hwili, 17, died of gunshot wounds in the neck during a con-

frontation with security forces. There were unconfirmed reports that a girl, Najwah al-Masri, died at Beit Hanoun in the afternoon.

IDF sources confirmed that another man, Nafez Youssef Iqtifar, was killed at Deir el-Balah during morning demonstrations. The sources said a patrol was cornered by demonstrators in Deir el-Balah hurling iron bars and cement blocks. They opened fire, killing Iqtifar and wounded eight, two seriously. IDF officials immediately opened an investigation of the incident.

In the course of the investigation, Iqtifar's body was taken to Shifa Hospital for preliminary examination. The arrival of the body sparked a massive demonstration in and around the hospital grounds.

Gazan youths took over the streets in the early evening, putting up barricades of burning tyres and blocking off traffic in the neighbourhoods around the hospital grounds.

Inside Shifa Hospital, the scene yesterday afternoon was like that of a besieged war zone as troops fired into a hospital courtyard filled with

(Continued on Page Five)

Israel defends army's behaviour in areas

By ASHER WALLFISH and WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondents
Israel's leaders yesterday defended the army's behaviour in the territories, after sharp criticism by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy the day before.

Prime Minister Shamir told the National Religious Party Knesset faction: "Every photo or TV film showing a riot does Israel damage, as it did in the Peace for Galilee operation. I hope Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has already explained to Murphy, the true facts of the situation in the areas."

In Washington, meanwhile, visiting Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin justified Israel's use of lethal military force saying at a meeting with Israeli reporters that the IDF was doing an adequate job under diffi-

cult circumstances. Regrettably, Rabin said, there was no alternative.

Shamir had phoned Rabin urgently yesterday after Murphy's remarks and told him to set the assistant secretary straight on the matter and to prevent him repeating his public rebukes.

Shamir told the NRP that Murphy would not have made his remarks had he not seen the television news reports.

The night before, Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, came to Rabin's hotel suite to once again urge Israeli restraint in the face of the disturbances in the territories.

According to Israeli sources, Murphy is said to have asked that

(Continued on Page Five)

Three IDF soldiers hurt in security zone clash

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Post Defence Reporter
TEL AVIV — Three IDF soldiers were lightly wounded yesterday afternoon, and an unknown number of gunmen were hurt in a clash some two kilometres north of the security zone in Lebanon.

The incident, involving artillery barrages and several assault helicopters which fired missiles and cannons, aroused fears that the long-awaited Israeli retaliation for the November 25 hang-glider attack was under way. But military sources in-

sisted the clash was local, involving only a small number of soldiers, and the force eventually returned to the security zone.

Military sources told *The Jerusalem Post* that a small unit was sent to the Maydon area. The unit was engaged in what was described as "difficult terrain." Three soldiers were wounded, two of them very superficially, from ricochets.

The clash developed as the enemy fired a mortar and the force received artillery cover. Assault helicopters

(Continued on Page Five)

Two arrested for soldier's murder

By YOEL DAR

ACRE — Galilee police yesterday arrested two Arabs, one of them an Israeli, and the other from the West Bank, on suspicion of murdering soldier Hanoch Steve Denmann three months ago.

The suspects are Lutfi Hijazi, 40, from Tamra village in Galilee, and Nimr Jamil Jarar, 25, from Fundokemia village, near Jenin.

The investigators have not yet recovered the murdered soldier's weapon.

At a press conference here, the Galilee sub-district police chief, Assistant Commander Ya'acov Ganot, said yesterday that police had also arrested three more people, including Hijazi's divorced wife, for withholding information on the crime from police.

The motive for Denmann's murder is not yet clear, but police do not rule out the possibility that nationalistic feelings were behind it.

Denmann, a Dutch citizen, came to Israel several years ago and after a short period converted to Judaism and then joined the IDF.

Last September 20 he hitchhiked from the Acre area to his base on the Golan Heights, but never reached his destination. Eight days later, a Beduin shepherd found his body in the fields of Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk.

The police set up a team to investigate the case and four weeks ago arrested Hijazi, who was found hiding in a carpentry shop in Haifa. Police also arrested several of his relatives, and three days ago they arrested Jarar.

Jarar allegedly said he met Hijazi in Haifa several months ago, when they planned to kill a soldier to take his weapon.

The suspects reconstructed the crime two days ago.

Ganot said the police had enough evidence to charge the two.

Court orders Leumi to reopen

Post Finance Reporter

Tel Aviv District Labour Court Judge David Moral last night ordered Bank Leumi to re-open for business this morning.

The court accepted the assurance of the Histadrut, representing the Leumi staff committees, that it would impose its authority on the committees. The Histadrut promised that there would be no further work disruptions that violated the trade union organization's rule book.

In the judge's opinion, this declaration was binding on the staff committees, and therefore he granted the Histadrut's request that the bank end its two-day-old lockout.

The legal wrangle represents a partial victory for Leumi management, since it succeeded in obtaining the promises of good behaviour it was seeking from the staff committees.

The Histadrut's mediation, and its representation of the committees, enabled the latter to climb out of the corner they painted themselves into, without too much loss of face.

It now seems likely that the wage negotiations will recommence and be completed without further wild-cat strikes.

Leumi management said it was pleased with the court decision.



Demonstrators face IDF troops yesterday outside the Nuseirat refugee camp in Gaza. (Ben-Ami/Media)

A young man dies in Gaza city

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
GAZA CITY — The crowd of some 200 young Palestinians who have turned the institution into a staging ground and symbol for nationalist resistance, surged against the hospital entrance, throwing stones even as advancing soldiers fired on them from the other side of the gate.

Reporters watching the 1:00 p.m. confrontation yesterday from a first floor window of the hospital saw one young Palestinian fall to the ground with a head wound, while a second was carried away on a stretcher.

Later, one of the two, Mahmoud A-Sahla, was pronounced dead.

Bullet shots rang out against the hospital walls for nearly an hour during the confrontation. From a nearby mosque, a muezzin broadcast messages of encouragement to the youths and men in the courtyard, facing off against the security forces.

Inside the hospital there was chaos as angry youths and men raced up and down the corridors and families huddled over wounded relatives.

One man bloodied the face of *New York Times* reporter John Kifner, after an angry gang surged upstairs and grabbed him from a window perch where was snapping pictures of the crowd in the courtyard.

"He's an agent of the Mossad," one man shouted before the attack was broken up by hospital staff and a Palestinian reporter. Hospital employees inserted two stitches near Kifner's eye.

This was the second of three confrontations at the Gaza hospital yesterday between the IDF and Palestinians, who have turned the institution into a staging ground and symbol for nationalist resistance.

Later in the afternoon, three IDF helicopters dropped tear gas canisters into the hospital grounds, and soldiers finally entered the courtyard, arresting about 20 people, according to a Palestinian reporter, Hamza Ibrahim Zakout, who was there.

The attack on Kifner was not the first time that anger and tensions were vented yesterday on reporters and international observers, as well as at the Israeli Army. Nor was the outbreak at the hospital entirely without warning.

One angry youth standing at the gate warned a group of English-speaking journalists, including this reporter, upon entering, "You may be harmed. People are feeling very extreme. The international press makes us look like Indians. What is the international press saying about the gas bombs fired into Shifa?"

In Nuseirat, a refugee camp camp in the central part of the Gaza Strip, a youth held up a tear gas canister and pointed to the name of the manufacturer: Federal Laboratories, Salisbury, Pennsylvania.

"See, made in the U.S.A.," he said.

Bernard Mills, director of the United Nations Relief Works Agency, UNRWA, said his car had been kicked

(Continued on Page Four)

British minister to visit 'occupied territories'

By DAVID HOROVITZ

LONDON — In a press release that clearly demonstrates Britain's total rejection of any Israeli role in the West Bank and Gaza, the Foreign Office yesterday announced that Minister David Mellor will visit the "occupied territories" from January 2-4, and will then go to Israel from January 4-6.

"The two visits are indeed entirely separate," a Whitehall source told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

"The programme in the occupied territories has been organized by Her Majesty's consul in Jerusalem, with no input whatsoever from the Israeli authorities."

Mellor, the Foreign Office minister responsible for the Middle East, moved over from the Home Office following last summer's general elections here. He said yesterday that he would be presenting Israeli officials with Britain's "casual assessment" that the international

peace conference is "an idea whose time has come."

Noting that Premier Thatcher manages to hold meaningful discussions with representatives of all sides to the Middle East conflict, Mellor said he saw no reason "why they can't all do business together." Asked whether he had already closed his mind to Premier Shamir's arguments against a conference, Mellor said: "My mind is never closed. I hope his isn't either."

Index rose by 1.6 per cent

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter
The Consumer Price Index rose by 1.6 per cent in November, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. The relatively high rate of inflation surprised the Treasury, which was expecting a rise of about 1 per cent.

November's price rises brought the CPI to 187 points on a 1985 = 100 baseline. Since the beginning of the year the index went up 14.7 per cent. In the last 12 months the cumulative rate of inflation was 16.4 per cent.

Reacting to the CPI figures, Finance Minister Moshe Nissim said that it was a further sign that the

1987 inflation rate would be lower than that of 1986. The CBS said yesterday that the final inflation figure for this year was likely to be around 16 per cent. In 1986, prices rose 19.6 per cent.

Nissim added that it would take "a year or two" to eliminate inflation, and stressed his determination to slash the budget deficit in the next fiscal year. "It is very important to prevent an increase in the government deficit and it is essential to maintain wage restraint," he said. "Everybody has a duty to work towards greater stability," he said.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar charged yesterday that

(Continued on Page Nine)



Have you given? Hanukkah is here.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	16.12.87	17.12.87	18.12.87
AMSTERDAM	-4 28 -28	Cloudy	
MUNICH	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
PARIS	-1 24 -24	Cloudy	
BRUSSELS	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
FRANKFURT	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
GENEVA	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
BERLIN	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
STUTTGART	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
WURZBURG	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
BOLOGNA	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
ROM	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
ATHENS	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
TEL AVIV	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
HAIFA	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
BEIRUT	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
CAIRO	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
ADDIS ABABA	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
JOHANNESBURG	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
CAPE TOWN	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
PORT ELIZABETH	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
DURBAN	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
NEW DELHI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
MUMBAI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
COCHIN	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
BANGALORE	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
CHENNAI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
KOLKATA	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
DELHI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
NEW DELHI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
DELHI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	
DELHI	-1 23 -23	Cloudy	

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	High/Low	High/Low	High/Low
Jerusalem	63/33	9/9	15/18
Golan	70/40	12/12	15/18
Haifa Port	60/30	10/22	24/28
Tiberias	64/34	9/16	18/24
Nazareth	55/25	8/20	23/29
Afula	58/28	8/17	19/23
Shomron	61/31	10/22	23/29
Tel Aviv	66/36	8/22	24/28
B-G Airport	30/20	9/23	25/29
Jericho	66/36	13/20	21/27
Gaza	45/25	7/21	24/28
Beersheba	30/20	10/26	27/31
Eilat			

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The Jerusalem Rotary Club luncheon will be held at the YMCA, King David Street, at 1 p.m. today. Dr. Barney Kaplan will lecture on "South Africa revisited."

Likud backing for bill aimed at ending films on Friday night

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The Friday night film showings which began a few weeks ago may soon become a thing of the past as the result of a new law which is to come before the Knesset.

Prime Minister Shamir yesterday told the National Religious Party faction in the Knesset that the "Delegation Law," which would authorize local councils to pass by-laws on Shabbat observance, would be submitted to the cabinet, then to the House by Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer with the full backing of the Likud, thus ensuring its passage.

The law would nullify the effect of the recent Jerusalem Municipal Court ruling that local councils have no authority to regulate public Shabbat observance. The ruling came after the Jerusalem Municipality attempted to stop a number of cinemas from opening on Friday night.

A spokesman for Hammer said that the sole intention of the proposed law was to restore the situation to that which had existed since the establishment of the state, when every locality could determine the degree of Shabbat observance to be enforced in public.

"We are simply creating the legal basis for a long-established practice," he said.

Nahal soldier rewarded for killing terrorist

SAFAD (Itim) - Samal Gidon Bishari, the Nahal soldier who killed the terrorist in last month's hang-glider attack, was presented with a letter of appreciation, a gift and a hanukkah by OC Northern Command Yossi Peled at a ceremony here last night.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

After meeting with Sen. Nunn, Rabin upbeat on major deal with U.S. army

By WOLF BLITZER

WASHINGTON - Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday emerged from a meeting with Democratic Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia encouraged about the prospect of Israel concluding a long-delayed major military sale to the U.S. armed forces, according to well-placed Israeli sources.

They recalled that Nunn, the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, last year raised questions about the proposed Israeli export of mortar shells to the U.S. Army. The sale, involving the Soltam company, could mean hundreds of millions of dollars in exports.

It would represent the largest single Israeli military export deal ever,

according to the sources. Israel has been competing with mortar manufacturers in Spain and France for the lucrative contract.

The deal was expected to be completed last year but Nunn, at the last minute, wrote to then defence secretary Caspar Weinberger, raising questions about the deal and the possibility of improprieties in connection with Israel's winning of the contract. Since then, the arrangement has been on hold pending the outcome of an internal Pentagon investigation.

In a related development, the U.S. Defence Department has agreed to finance 80 per cent of the cost of Israel's research and development of a new anti-tactical ballistic missile (ATBM). Israel would finance the remaining 20 per cent.

Israel originally asked for a 90-10 split in the cost of the new system, but is still holding out for that kind of arrangement. But informed sources yesterday said Israel would probably be prepared to accept the 80-20 deal if necessary.

In another potentially significant deal, the U.S. Air Force is said to be close to an agreement to purchase Israeli-made Popeye air-to-ground missiles. That sale also could represent a significant shot in the arm for the beleaguered Israeli defence industry.

Meeting with Israeli reporters yesterday, the defence minister said he had held a very good meeting at

the Pentagon on Monday with Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci. He described Carlucci as "very friendly" and "open."

Rabin also met Monday night with top executives from General Dynamics, the manufacturer of the F-16 jet fighter. Israel has been trying to negotiate a lower cost for the purchase of another 75-100 F-16s to replace the now-defunct Lavi fighter.

Rabin is due to fly today to the Military Academy at West Point, New York, to address the cadets and to lay a wreath at the grave of Col. David "Micky" Marcus, the American Jewish officer who died fighting for Israel in the War of Independence.

Witness derides superimposition method

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Even slight variations in the camera angle when a person is photographed can make the comparison of different photos of that person through the superimposition method "essentially worthless."

This was probably the key statement the defence yesterday drew out of its witness, Professor Yasser Mehmed Iscan, who teaches anthropology at Florida Atlantic University.

The statement was made in an almost empty courtroom during what was perhaps the most boring and least dramatic session since the trial started last February. Most of this was not the fault of defence counsel Paul Chumak, who conducted his questioning in a refreshingly crisp and concise manner. It was just that the elaborate background on the theory and methods of anthropology he drew out of the witness had the professor sounding as if he was lecturing to a class of freshmen.

Dr. Iscan's qualifications were looked into again, although the subject had taken up the entire two-



hour session of the previous day. It emerged that Iscan has written 28 articles in his subject. While his university has no Ph.D. programme of its own, he supervises the work of one Canadian doctoral student and also has four or five students working on their M.A.s.

After about an hour-and-a-half of this, Chumak entered into evidence Iscan's curriculum vitae - which ran to 25 pages.

Then the actual questioning started. Chumak: "Can photos taken under differing conditions of lighting and positioning, which are also separated by a 15-30 year time span, be decisively identified as being of the same person?"

Iscan: "Under these circumstances it is almost impossible to

make a positive identification, unless there is an outstanding feature, such as the nose of Jimmy Durante or Karl Malden. But if the face is common, you would have a rough time discovering similarities."

The professor pointed out that a person cannot be 80 per cent himself and 20 per cent somebody else, "or even 99 per cent himself and 1 per cent someone else. I am who I am, whatever scale you use."

He commented that he describes the results of comparisons between such unequal photos as "indeterminate." His categories for the identification of more nearly equal pictures are "possible" and "probable."

In the absence of prosecutor Michael Shaked, who is sitting *shiva* for his deceased younger brother, attorney Daphna Beinwohl represented the prosecution. Towards the end of the session she objected to a defence attempt to introduce the "hearsay" testimony of a Dr. Don Ortnier, who is also an anthropologist. Court president Dov Levin decided to close the session an hour earlier than scheduled and ruled that the issue be resolved today.

State Comptroller suspects Shas of misuse of Treasury funds

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent
The State Comptroller has got the Shas Party in his sights once again in connection with dubious transfers of Treasury funds to Shas-controlled welfare and educational institutions serving as fronts for the ultra-Orthodox Sephardi bloc's political activities.

After the Likud mayor of Herzliya, Eli Landau, accused Shas in the media of withholding budgeted funds from his municipal council unless he undertook to siphon off a part for Shas activities, Mapam MK Yair Tsaban brought the matter up in the State Control Committee, which decided to ask State Comptroller Ya'acov Malz to probe the matter.

Tsaban said that Shas was inducing parents to send their children to day care centres and pre-kindergartens - subsidized by municipalities through the Shas welfare organization - by offering ridiculously low fees. It then asked the parents to vote its ticket in the next elections. Originally the money came from the state budget, Tsaban charged.

Committee chairman Prof. David Liba'i said that when the last State Comptroller's report on the organization - El Hamazany - is discussed next week, he will put Mayor Landau's charges on the agenda as well.

Israelis, Norwegians discuss inspection of heavy water

OSLO (Reuters) - An Israeli delegation and Norwegian government officials met yesterday to discuss whether Norway will be allowed to inspect heavy water it sold to Israel, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Norway earlier this year asked to inspect the water, sent to Israel in 1960, to ensure that the 20-tonne shipment had not been used to make nuclear bombs - one of the sale's original terms.

Israel has insisted the water was used only for peaceful purposes in nuclear power plants, but last October it refused to allow experts from the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect the water on Norway's behalf.

Unrest in areas sharpens Knesset debate

By DVORAH GETZLER

Post Knesset Reporter
Rioting and death in the administered territories and Ariel Sharon's new home in the Moslem Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City turned yesterday's Knesset debate on human rights into a heated confrontation between left and right, and saw Justice Minister Avraham Shari' attack U.S. Undersecretary of State Richard Murphy for what he said was naive that sprang from ignorance and lack of understanding.

"The Jewish people, victims of the worst negation of human rights ever known to mankind, cannot keep silent" in the face of the attack on human rights now taking place in the territories, thundered Mapam's Yair Tsaban.

No hiding behind the excuse of putting down the most murderous form of terror could save us from the charges being levelled against us by even our best friends, those who themselves endangered their lives to save Jews during the Nazi Holocaust, he said.

The Landau Commission on the Shin Bet had sounded the warning, said Tsaban, and the Knesset should heed it. There was no longer any need to peer beneath the surface, for what was being done in the territories was being done more and more openly.

For Citizens Rights Movement leader Shulamit Aloni, Sharon was establishing a new norm. His occupancy of an apartment in the Moslem Quarter was based on a philosophy that held that what is mine is mine and what is yours is also mine. And this after the High Court had decreed that each community was entitled to its own quarter in the Old City.

Aloni said that Israel's former premier - a reference to Menachem Begin - and its current premier had been terrorists during the period of the British Mandate precisely because no matter how benign that regime had been, they had felt the lack of freedom and sovereignty.

Everyone, said Shari', was saddened by what was happening in the territories now. But no one could accuse the Israel Defence Forces of acting like an army of occupation.

Murphy's condemnation of recent events was "naive," and it must have been based on wrong information and a failure to understand the situation.

As for Aloni's interpretation of the High Court ruling on an Arab request to live in the Jewish Quarter, Shari' said she was mistaken. He could never accept a ruling that forbade Jews from making their homes in any part of Eretz Yisrael.

Despite the urgency of the motions, the House was all but empty, and the minister's reply was deemed a sufficient response.

Sharon yields in battle over political appointments

BY AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter
The Industry and Trade Ministry this week told the High Court of Justice that it would hold tenders for commercial attaché postings abroad, marking the end to an 18-month legal battle between Minister Ariel Sharon and 50 workers of his ministry.

Sharon acknowledged defeat and scrapped plans to appoint political supporters to the posts.

In June 1986, the ministry workers petitioned the High Court after Sharon announced his intention to appoint two Herut figures, Reuven Shalom and Moshe Bar Nathan, as commercial attaches in New York and Boston. The workers' attorney, Michael Shaked, sought to convince the court not only that the planned appointments would be in violation of required procedures, but also that the minister and his aides had lied to the court and the civil service commissioner.

The officials claimed that the minister had made a norm of appointing political supporters to senior professional posts, and had violated a tradition which was honoured by Labour and Likud ministers in the past.

Sharon originally claimed that he had a right to appoint commercial attaches. But later the ministry told the court no commercial attaches would be appointed until the dispute was resolved. However, the ministry sent Shalom in 1986 to New York as a "local worker," and tried to arrange that he be given the same conditions as a representative. The ministry even claimed this was part of a wider reform programme to substitute commercial attaches with local workers.

Shalom was summoned back to Israel at the end of September.

A-G to ask Knesset panel to strip Amar of immunity

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent
The attorney-general this week is expected to send formal notice to the Knesset, requesting the House Committee to strip Shlomo Amar (Alignment-Yahad) of his parliamentary immunity so that he can face criminal charges.

Attorney-General Yosef Harish is seeking to prosecute Amar for his alleged involvement in an electronic eavesdropping case in the Egged bus cooperative, of which he is a member and was formerly a senior manager.

He also wants to prosecute Amar for allegedly enlisting four others, all since convicted, to help him get out of doing military reserve duty in Lebanon.

Amar and the others got the key witness, whom he allegedly bribed, to come to a late night meeting, where they tried to induce him to retract his evidence by illegal means.

Nearly three years ago, the former attorney-general, Prof. Yitzhak Zamir, failed to persuade the Knesset to lift Amar's parliamentary immunity so he could stand trial. Later, Zamir charged the MKs with "functioning like a guild whose members protected each other's interests."

The general opinion in the Knesset this time is that Harish will easily persuade the House to remove Amar's immunity, especially as his cronies are already serving time for the same offence.

Israel Radio tribute to Jascha Heifetz

Israel Radio will tomorrow pay tribute to the memory of violinist Jascha Heifetz, who died last week. Most of the Voice of Music programmes will contain excerpts from his recordings. There will also be two all-Heifetz programmes - at 12 noon and at 11 p.m. - featuring not only the music of the great virtuoso, but also the sound of his voice.

Court stalls release of settler accused of killing Gaza girl

By BRADLEY BURSTON

Jerusalem Post Reporter
BEERSHEBA - Against the backdrop of unrest in Gaza, the district court here yesterday delayed a decision to release on bail Shimon Yifrah, the Jewish settler accused of killing a Palestinian schoolgirl during rioting in the southern Gaza Strip a month ago.

The fatal shooting of 17-year-old Intisar el-Atar in the courtyard of the girls' high school in Dir el-Balah followed the stoning of settlers' cars by pupils from the school.

In requesting Yifrah's release, defence attorneys argued yesterday that fears of the effects of his release on the current wave of unrest in Gaza should have no bearing on the decision.

"The court must rule on the merits of the case, and not on the basis of the climate in the streets," the attorneys said.

Yifrah poses no danger to the public, the attorneys contended, citing the 30-year-old teacher's lack of previous convictions and his reputation as an "upright, God-fearing educator who believes that all lives are equal in God's eyes." The attorneys also asked the court to take into account the hardship that the arrest has brought on Yifrah's wife, who, they said, had been dismissed from her teaching job for failure to

report to work following the incident.

Opposing these arguments, Prosecutor Zilla Kenan told the court that the weight of the evidence alone justified keeping Yifrah in custody. She pointed out that Yifrah's plea of self-defence was belied by the fact that the car carrying the accused and three other settlers passed the school without being attacked, then executed a U-turn, chased students towards the courtyard, and stopped by the school gate, from which the fatal shot was said to have been fired.

Kenan also disputed Yifrah's statement that he had only fired into the air, and produced evidence that Yifrah's pistol was pointing downwards when the girl was hit in the back, apparently while fleeing the shooting.

Following the presentation of the arguments, Judge Ephraim Liron postponed the decision on Yifrah's release until tomorrow morning.

The atmosphere in the crowded courtroom yesterday was generally calm. Several settlers read from the Book of Psalms during the proceedings. After the hearing, members of Yifrah's family said they were encouraged, and expressed optimism that he would be released in time to light the third candle of Hanukkah tomorrow night.

Meir Vanunu appeals to EC to support his brother's cause

By YOSHI LEMPKOWICZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent and Agencies

STRASBOURG - The brother of alleged nuclear spy Mordechai Vanunu yesterday appealed to Western European leaders to intervene on his behalf and help stop what he said was Israel's build-up of nuclear arms.

Speaking at a press conference at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, Meir Vanunu urged the European Community to protest against his brother's "inhumane" prison conditions and to support his call for an open trial.

On Monday, Meir Vanunu was in Bonn when the Greens Party launched an international campaign to win his brother's release.

The campaign, led by Petra Kelly,

one of the Greens founders, aims to provide a well-known lawyer for Vanunu, improve his prison conditions and lift charges of treason and espionage levelled against him by Israeli prosecutors, a Greens statement said.

Mordechai Vanunu is one of four recipients of this year's \$100,000 Right-Livelihood Prize, which is awarded by the committee of peace and environmental activists from around the world.

The award, which is considered an "alternative Nobel Prize," was established several years ago by Jakob von Uexküll, a Greens delegate at the European Parliament. Meir Vanunu accepted the award for his brother at ceremonies in Stockholm on December 9.

Well-briefed Queen quizzes Herzog on Israeli politics

By DAVID HOROVITZ

LONDON - Queen Elizabeth received President Herzog and his wife Aura yesterday at Buckingham Palace for a nearly hour-long discussion on Israel's economic turnaround, the prospects for peace and the mechanics of the national unity government.

The queen, it is understood, was particularly interested to know which issues would feature most prominently in next year's elections, and where the various parties stood on each of them. She had clearly been well briefed by the Foreign Office.

Because this is not a state visit,

Herzog brought no gift for the queen - although a crate of the Golan Winery's prize-winning Cabernet Sauvignon has already been dispatched from Jerusalem - but the queen presented Herzog with signed photographs of Prince Phillip and herself, in elegant solid silver frames.

Later last night, Herzog fulfilled the main purpose of his visit, addressing a dinner at the Guildhall to open Anglo-Jewry's celebrations of Israel's 40th anniversary.

Today, the last day of his stay, Herzog will be the guest speaker at a luncheon at 10 Downing Street hosted by Prime Minister Thatcher.

36 died on Israel's roads in November

Thirty-six people were killed in 32 fatal accidents in Israel in November. Altogether there were some 1,200 accidents, in which 1,695 people were injured, 303 of them seriously.

These figures bring the total for the last 11 months to 458 killed and some 13,600 injured. There were 3 per cent more accidents than in the corresponding period last year, but 22 per cent more deaths.

Maccabi Sick Fund

announces the transfer of the Fund's Central Office to its new location in the

Hechal Hasiti Building, 27 Reh. Hamered, Tel Aviv.

The new headquarters contains the offices of the national administration, medical and pharmaceutical divisions, organization and administration division, and finance, doctors' accounts and collections departments.

The new telephone number of the Maccabi Sick Fund headquarters:

03-5103711.



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The Knesset. We share the grief of Speaker of the Knesset, SHLOMO HILLEL, on the double loss of his brothers

MENASHE HILLEL

and **KADURI HILLEL**

who died in the golan.

May he know no more sorrow.

Deputy Speakers of the Knesset

In accordance with the wish of the Knesset Speaker, we ask the public to refrain from condolence visits.

SDI could still shoot down detente - Gorbachev

MOSCOW (AP) - U.S.-Soviet relations are improving somewhat, but disagreement over the American "Star Wars" Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) programme could spoil it all, Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev said.

He went on nationwide television for 20 minutes on Monday night to tell Soviet citizens about his three-day summit meeting in Washington last week, when he and U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed an agreement to eliminate the two superpowers' medium-range nuclear missiles.

Gorbachev cited the treaty and what he said are changing American attitudes toward the Soviet Union as indications that relations between the superpowers are better. But he said there is no fundamental improvement, and differences over the Strategic Defence Initiative, Reagan's plan for a space-based anti-

missile system, could block further progress.

Gorbachev appeared to take issue with Reagan's assessment that SDI would no longer block progress on negotiations to cut both sides' long-range nuclear missiles by 50 per cent, a view which the President repeated in Washington yesterday.

Before and during the summit, the Soviets toned down their criticism of "Star Wars," in what was taken as a possible sign of a shift in their position. Some analysts said the Soviets appeared to be betting that the U.S. would find the programme too technically difficult to deploy or too expensive.

Gorbachev said "definite circles" in the U.S. and Western Europe were trying to stop superpower relations from improving too much.

"Voices calling on the leadership of the U.S. not to go too far, to halt the process of disarmament, sound ever louder," he said. "Demands

are made to take urgent measures to compensate for the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles by bringing new nuclear forces closer to Europe and into Europe, by the modernization of nuclear and other armaments remaining in Europe.

"Certain persons even try to assert that the talks in Washington have removed differences on SDI and under that pretext call for speeding up work on that programme," Gorbachev said.

"I must say outright that these are dangerous tendencies and that they should not be underestimated. They can undermine the nascent turn in the process of the demilitarization of international relations," he said.

Gorbachev posed a hypothetical question about the state of relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, and took a long pause before answering: "From a firm viewpoint, on the basis of facts and without

exaggeration, it is still early to speak about a drastic turn in our relations."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshchev said yesterday that the Soviet Union is expecting a fourth superpower summit to take place in Moscow next May or June regardless of whether a treaty on cutting strategic arms is ready for signing. He also said an agreement reached by Gorbachev and Reagan last week would bar the so-called broad interpretation of the 1972 Soviet-U.S. Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty.

The broad interpretation, advanced in the U.S., would permit vigorous testing of SDI. Moscow says this is prohibited under the ABM treaty as originally signed.

Pyadyshchev, at the first regular Moscow news conference since Gorbachev's return from the Washington summit, was asked whether Reagan would visit next spring if a

treaty to cut strategic arms by half had not yet been drafted.

"Our great wish is that we have that treaty ready by the time President Reagan comes here," he said. "But we have a realistic view of the situation and we now have even deeper insight into U.S. internal developments and the line-up of forces on the American political scene covering arms control issues."

Turning to ABM, the spokesman noted that a joint statement after the Washington summit had specified that the two sides were committed to observe the treaty "as signed in 1972" while conducting research, testing and deployment.

"This means the two sides have recognized that the ABM treaty must be enforced... in the form in which it was signed in 1972, and not in the way it is currently being interpreted in the broad sense by some American interpreters of the treaty," he declared.

Iraq could acquire Brazil nuclear missile capability

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) - Iraq could soon acquire from Brazil ballistic missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads or chemical weapons up to 300 km, an expert in the international arms trade said yesterday.

Aaron Karp, who monitors the international arms trade for the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri), said this was just one alarming development in the spread of ballistic missile technology to Third World nations.

"The Brazilian SS-300 missile project appears to be financed by Iraq or its supporters. The Iraqis have been fully briefed on the new missile and will be ready to buy it when it is ready in 1989 or 1990," Karp said, adding that "the dimensions are the minimum thought necessary to carry a likely Third World nuclear missile."

In two unpublished studies made available to Reuters, Karp said a pact signed this year by seven Western industrialised nations on halting the spread of ballistic missile technology was likely to prove ineffective. Such self-propelled, guided missiles can be used to deliver nuclear bombs or chemical weapons with devastating accuracy over a long range, Karp says in these studies, due to appear in U.S. defence journals in the next few months.

"The pact may slow things down a bit but it won't stop them. Determined buyers of such technology will inevitably find unscrupulous sellers," he said, because the accord—signed last April by the United States, Britain, France, Canada, Italy, Japan and West Germany—lacked mechanisms both to monitor compliance and enforce restraint. He reported that, apart from Brazil, India and Israel also had advanced ballistic missile programs and were prepared to export the technology to other Third World nations.



A woman suspected of involvement in the disappearance of a Korean airliner two weeks ago is led away by police officers on arrival at Seoul's Kimpoo airport yesterday. (AFP)

Bahrain extradites mystery KAL air-crash woman

SEOUL (Reuters) - A mystery woman believed to be linked to the disappearance of a South Korean jet with 115 people on board arrived in Seoul yesterday and was immediately whisked off for questioning, the Foreign Ministry said.

As the frail-looking young woman was led from the plane by intelligence officers, she appeared to be sobbing. A wide bandage covered her mouth and security officials said this was to prevent her from committing suicide.

The woman and an elderly male

companion tried to commit suicide in Bahrain while being questioned about the Korean Air Lines (KAL) plane, which is believed to have crashed near Burma on November 29.

She and the body of her companion, who died after swallowing a cyanide capsule hidden in a cigarette, arrived here on a special KAL flight.

South Korean officials have said they believe the woman and the dead man, carrying fake Japanese passports under the name Hachiya,

were North Korean agents who planted a time bomb on the missing plane. North Korea has denied any involvement.

South Korea's intelligence organization, the Agency for National Security Planning, is believed to be in control of the investigation into the affair.

The woman and her male companion, both East Asians, got off the ill-fated Boeing 707 in Abu Dhabi hours before it went missing while on a flight from Baghdad to Seoul.

Soviets pledge Nicaragua arms ban

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Ronald Reagan said yesterday that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev pledged during their summit meeting to withhold all military aid to Nicaragua in order to move forward with Central American peace plans.

The president, answering questions in a brief session with reporters, was asked about his discussions with Gorbachev concerning the war in Nicaragua, in which the U.S. has backed rebel forces.

"I think this is a subject that we

are going to be discussing for quite some time," he said. "All I know is that he told me he wanted to go forward with the peace plan and that they would withhold aid from the Sandinista government in order to do so."

Asked whether this was a promise to withhold all aid, the president replied, "All military aid. He did specify that there might be some small firearms, the type of thing for police use, and that was the extent of our discussion."

Opec to try to keep oil price at \$18 per barrel for six months

VIENNA (Reuters) - Opec, with the single but significant dissenting voice of Iraq, agreed on Monday night to try to enforce an oil price of \$18 per barrel for another six months, but many traders were sceptical that the group could manage it.

Twelve of the 13 member states agreed to pitch their output ceiling for the first six months of next year at 15.06 million barrels per day and to keep charging \$18 a barrel after one of the most politicized conferences in recent years.

The final accord was a tradeoff between Iran, which wanted to raise prices to \$20 to compensate for the U.S. currency's decline and a Saudi-led bloc which fears that more expensive oil will drive clients to alternative fuels.

"We came close to a very dangerous situation," said Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer of the showdown.

"It is a good agreement," he told reporters, but traders who had anticipated its shape marked world prices down some 90 cents a barrel all Monday because they fear it will mean Opec continued to pump more than markets can absorb.

This is especially true because of

Iraq's refusal to accept its quota because it wants one equal to Iran's 2.369 million barrels per day.

Iraq has been pumping almost twice its 1.54 million barrels per day allocation for 1987, industry sources said.

"They (Iraq) are not going to muck up the market," countered Opec conference president Riwanu Lukman when he addressed a news conference at the close of the talks.

Another headache for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is that several states are pumping more than their quotas allow to get more revenue, and this has weighed on prices since Opec output hit some 20 million barrels per day in August.

This did not appear to worry Nazer, who hinted that there had been a renewed commitment by all signatory states to keep to their Opec-mandated limits.

Not all traders agreed. Some thought that the fact the six-day session reached an agreement for 12 out of the 13 states rather than a breakdown could raise prices at some stage, although they were waiting to monitor output production.



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, right, yesterday receives Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), PLO central committee member, who headed the first Palestine Liberation Organization delegation to visit Cairo since the PLO offices there were allowed to reopen last month. (Reuters)

Hart said ready to run again

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Former U.S. Senator Gary Hart, whose presidential ambitions were derailed by a sex scandal earlier this year, plans to re-enter the Democratic race for the presidency, a former aide said yesterday.

Susan Casey, who worked in the former senator's 1984 and 1988 presidential campaigns, notified the New Hampshire Secretary of State's office that Hart planned to enter the state's presidential primary, the first in the nation, which is set for February 16, 1988.

CBS news said a major reason for

Hart's decision was to qualify for federal campaign matching funds.

Hart's former New Hampshire campaign director, Susan Calegar, said it appeared that Hart "has decided to bring his case to the people."

Since Hart's withdrawal, none of the other six candidates has managed to forge a clear-cut national lead. Jesse Jackson has generally led the field in most public opinion polls, with other candidates leading in surveys in New Hampshire and Iowa, the site of a critical early caucus test.

Greek tanker broken 'almost in half' by Iran missile

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) - Iranian vessels raked a Greek tanker with machinegun fire yesterday, then fired a missile into it seven hours later which "almost broke the ship in half" and forced the crew to abandon ship.

The crewmen were reported safe in Dubai.

Two gunboats raided the 102,088-ton Ariadne shortly after sunrise off Oman near the entrance to the

Strait of Hormuz, causing minor damage and no casualties, said Gulf-based salvage executives. But in the afternoon, an Iranian frigate fired a missile at the tanker and punched a 30-metre wide hole in the hull, Greek skipper Eleftherios Efsthathion told his rescuers.

A shipping source said the ship was "almost broken in half" in the attack, which occurred when the Ariadne had entered the southern gulf

after transiting the strait.

The warship also hit the crew quarters with rocket-propelled grenades, setting the tanker ablaze and forcing the 28-man crew to take to life rafts. Marine salvage officers said the ship was listing heavily and taking on water but was in no danger of sinking.

The tanker had been en route to pick up a shipment of crude oil from a Saudi Arabian terminal.

Kenya moves refugees as Uganda clashes spread

KENYA (Reuters) - Kenya began moving thousands of Ugandan refugees from a closed border as fighting between Ugandan soldiers and Kenyan security forces spread along their frontier yesterday.

Simon Chacha, the district commissioner for Busia, the border town where shooting broke out on Monday, said he feared Ugandan forces would try to raid the refugee camps, set up in September after fighting commenced between Ugandan government forces and rebel guerrillas.

"They are not safe here. We have reason to believe the NRA (National Resistance Army) plans to come

here," he told Reuters, adding that army troops were expected shortly to reinforce the police, so far the only force involved on the Kenyan side.

About 1,000 refugees took down their tents and gathered their goats and chickens at the Igara refugee camp near Busia, awaiting trucks to take them to an undisclosed location.

Authorities said more than 2,000 would be moved.

Fighting began at the main border crossing at Busia after Kenyan police said they repelled an attempt by several hundred Ugandan troops to cross into Kenya.

About 250 Ugandan soldiers firing bazookas tried to enter Kenya on Monday night near the border crossing at Malaba, 30 km. north of Busia but were repelled, with some civilians being wounded in crossfire, Chacha said.

Kenyan police sources said at least eight Ugandan soldiers had been killed. They estimated that there were about 2,000 NRA soldiers on the Ugandan side of Busia.

The outbreak of fighting follows a year of deteriorating relations and a strong protest last week by Kenyan Security Minister Justus Ole Tipis over alleged Ugandan military incursions into Kenyan territory.

Khomeini appears to refute reports of bad health

NICOSIA (AP) - Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini yesterday received the families of war victims and of prisoners captured by Iraq in the Gulf War, Teheran radio reported.

The announcement, also carried by the official Islamic Republic news agency, appeared designed to refute reports that Khomeini, 87, was seriously ill.

The official radio, monitored in Nicosia, said in a brief report that

the two Iranian officials addressed the gathering, but no statement by Khomeini was reported, indicating he remained silent.

The agency said Khomeini "responded to the visitors' enthusiasm" at the end of the meeting, a phrase it usually uses to describe a wave of the hand by the powerful patriarch.

Last Monday *The Times* of London, attributing its report to sources in Vienna and Teheran, said that Khomeini was in a coma and that a British-Austrian medical team flew to Teheran to attend him at a small hospital near Jamaran.

But the same day *The Financial*

Times of London quoted sources close to the Iranian delegation at the Opec meeting as dismissing reports of Khomeini's illness as "Arab disinformation."

There have been unconfirmed reports that Khomeini suffered at least one heart attack two years ago and was told by doctors to restrict his activities.

The latest reports apparently were set off by an official announcement Thursday that Khomeini has drawn up a new "divine political will and testament" concerning the succession to Iran's spiritual leadership after his death.

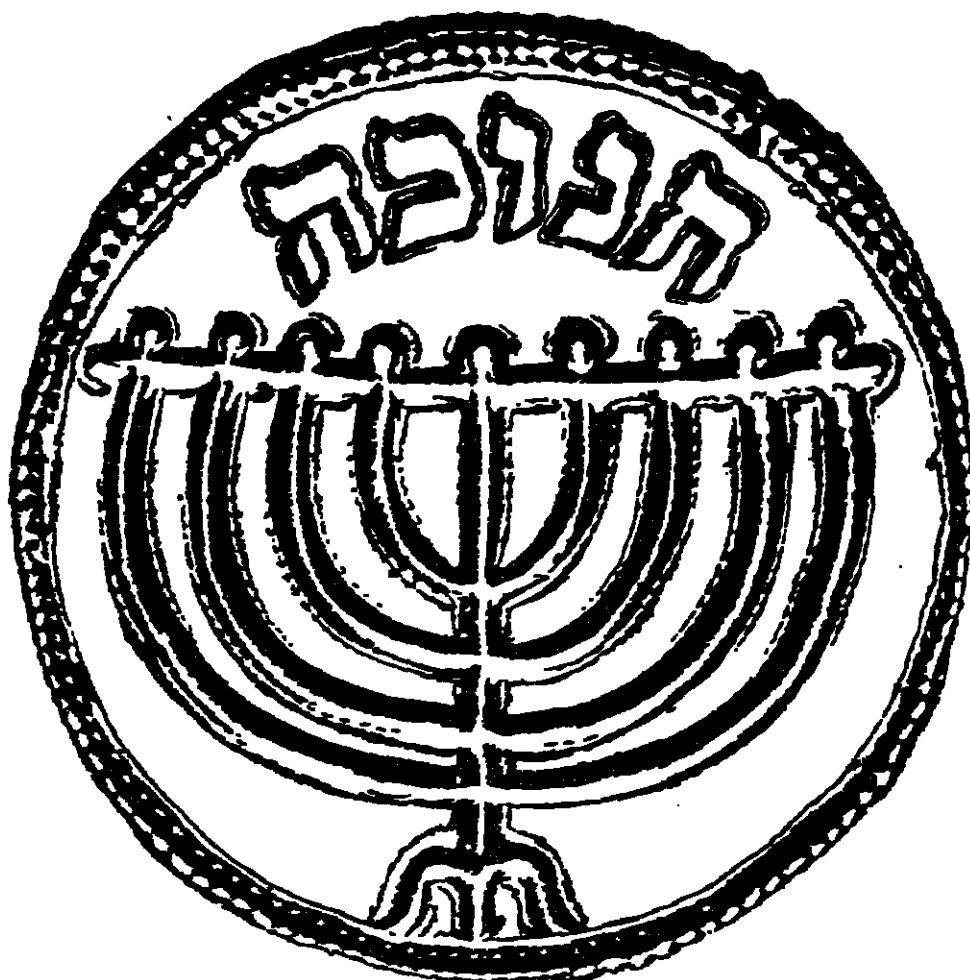
BRIEFS

SOVIET SCIENTISTS have developed a new robot capable of carrying more than twice its own weight up walls and along ceilings. Tass news agency reported yesterday. It said the robot, weighing 14 kg, had five legs equipped with suction pads and moved like a spider. One of its designers, Professor Felix Chernousko, told Tass the cable-operated robot was not "just an exotic" toy but could be used to monitor

seam welding in shipbuilding or to clean windows in high-rise buildings.

LORD WHITEHEAD, Britain's deputy prime minister, was reported to be in stable condition yesterday at London's Westminster Hospital after suffering a slight stroke. Whitehead, 69, collapsed Monday night during parliament's annual Christmas carol service in St. Margaret's church.

We wish you a Happy Chanukah



"We kindle these lights on account of the miracles, the deliverances and the wonders which thou didst work for our fathers..." Service for Chanukah



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An exercise in futility

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAMALLAH — It's Tuesday morning in Ramallah and it's not business as usual. Shops are shuttered, and knots of sullen men stand on the sidewalk.

The commercial strike has been in effect intermittently since Friday, when three Palestinians were killed in a clash with Border Police at the Balata refugee camp. Two shots ring out. Men and boys run by, and the street is seized by a momentary panic. The source of trouble is around the corner. Two officers from the Border Police and the Civil Administration are walking down the sidewalk, flanked by a patrol. One soldier carries a tear-gas grenade launcher which he has just used to disperse boys who hurled stones at the troops. Another soldier, carrying a club, whirls around every few steps to make sure no one surprises him. A jeep and an army command car pulling a welding machine move down the street.

The officers are compelling shopkeepers to open; if they don't, the entrances to their stores will be welded shut. The officers exchange a few terse words with the merchants, who unlock the shutters and pull them up as the welding machine rolls by.

A rock thrown at the troops missed and landed on a taxi, shattering its windshield. The teargas is wafting down the street, and merchants are wiping their eyes.

At one point, there seems to be some argument with a local teenager about his identity card. The helmeted Border Police officer makes a beeline for him, snatches the glasses off his face, slaps him several times and kicks him, before sending him along with a shout.

The soldiers move on. As soon as they pass, the shop shutters come

down again, one by one. The "opening" is an exercise in futility.

The reason for the reclosure is suddenly evident. Two boys charge out of nowhere and hurl two large stones across the street at a shop whose shutter was being lifted. Miraculously, the stones hit no one, but their effect was instantaneous.

The owner of a clothing store thinks he has found a way to survive the pressures: his shutter is half closed, ready to open or close at a moment's notice.

Spotting his shop, four teenagers walk over. A heavyset youth with a black jacket says: "We've come back, and we see you're open. Close up, and do it fast." The shopkeeper quickly promises compliance, and the youths loiter on the corner, watching him until he lowers the shutter. The group move on down the street, only a few blocks behind the soldiers, undoing what the soldiers have done.

"The kids are running our life," says the shopkeeper, who is old enough to be their father. "In fact, we're getting it from every direction. All we want to do is go to work, make a living, and go home and drink a cup of coffee."

On the way out of Ramallah, the welding machine is in action on Palestine Street. A burly reservist with a handlebar moustache is welding shut the shutter of the Solih Furniture store, as a woman argues with the Border Police officer.

"I was delayed in Jerusalem, and I just got off the bus," she says. "I went for a minute to get someone to help me open the shutter, and I found the army here welding it. I told them I was just about to open up, and they told me: 'No you're not. Now we don't know when we can reopen, and the owner has to go to the military governor.'"

Tuesday morning in Ramallah.



Palestinian protesters on hospital grounds in Gaza throw rocks and bottles at soldiers yesterday during violent demonstrations. (AFP telephoto)

(Continued from Page One)

kicked and dented by frustrated residents at another camp.

In Nuseirat and Bourj, refugee camps on opposite sides of the main coastal road, crowds armed with stones faced off against IDF troops and Border Police from 4 a.m. until about 10 a.m. yesterday.

One resident said the big confrontation at Nuseirat at around 11 a.m. was apparently designed to draw soldiers away from Bourj.

Seven people were reportedly injured in clashes at Nuseirat and one was paralyzed, according to reports from UNRWA officials on the scene and local residents.

Reporters observed soldiers blocking the entrances to both camps in an apparent effort to keep crowds from surging out onto the main coastal road and erecting barricades.

Around 10:00 a.m., half a dozen

SHIFA HOSPITAL

soldiers of the Givati Brigade stationed outside of the main entrance to Bourj, began shooting into the air every few minutes. No one was reported injured.

Inside the camp, tempers were explosive as crowds of youths grouped around visitors. They shouted pro-PLO, anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans, pointed at muddy streets, open sewers, shanty homes and saying, "See, this is our life."

One 22-year-old man from the camp, a bicycle repairman, said: "We are walking now with our chests bared. We don't care any more. Our life is not worth it. If we get killed, maybe it can produce a better life for our people."

At Nuseirat, six soldiers parked their jeep in the middle of an empty intersection. A soldier picked a

piece of fruit out of a vendor's stand left unattended, before the patrol moved on, having avoided a confrontation with camp residents.

As reporters walked out of the camp's main entrance, where a crowd had faced off against soldiers only a short while before, women held out babies they said had been teardropped, and told of a restless night of confrontations and demonstrations that began at 3 a.m., when they claimed Israeli troops blocked the camp entrance.

"It's a shame. It's a shame," cried one old lady angrily. At the entrance to her home, there was a big sack of onions, which are used to neutralize the effects of tear gas. Even after soldiers had disappeared, PLO flags and pennants bearing the faces of those killed recently in Gaza were strung above the entrance to the camp, waving in the wind.

In the Old City: Hanukka, protests ... and Christmas

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

In the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, residents were yesterday busy getting ready to light the first Hanukka candle. In the nearby market, shops were shut in an Arab protest strike. At the Christian Information Centre near Jaffa Gate, the Christmas season had officially begun.

Yesterday was the first day that Fr. Antoine Defauw distributed entry cards for the Midnight Mass in St. Catherine's Church, which adjoins the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

Stressing that the cards were not tickets, since they are distributed free, Defauw explained that there is room for about 700 people in the church. About a third of the entry cards are reserved for local residents, a third for long-time visitors and a third for last-minute tourists.

Many pilgrims come straight from the plane to the office in order to obtain a place in the church, he said. Within each category, the cards are given out on a first come, first served basis, but they are intended only for Catholics. As he spoke, a young couple came and asked about attending the Mass. When he saw their Danish passports, he frowned.

"Are you Roman Catholics?" he asked, knowing full well that Denmark is a predominantly Lutheran country. The two hesitated for a moment, but under his steady gaze, they eventually shook their heads. They were not. Then he patiently explained that there was not enough room in the church for all who wanted to attend and that, in order to make room, the chairs

were removed and worshippers had to stand through the two-hour service. "You can go to your own church in Bethlehem or Jerusalem," he told them.

The next applicant was a student from the U.S. After questioning the young man about his visa, Defauw gave him an entry card.

Officials at the office said they thought very few non-Catholics actually lied in order to obtain entry cards, although sometimes non-Catholics did ask Catholics to get cards for them. Requests for the cards came more often from lay people than from priests or nuns, they said, although some Catholics, especially those with families, preferred to spend the holiday evening at home in view of the security measures in Bethlehem.

Local Catholics are generally not happy about what they consider to be heavy-handed security measures, which in previous years kept pilgrims waiting for hours before they were allowed into Nativity Square.

"One Catholic official, who asked not to be identified, said: 'We understand the difficulties. If anything does happen, all of us will be ready to criticize.' But he added that, in his own faith, there is a principle that one may defend oneself with moderation. 'There have been too many cases where moderation was not assured,' he said."

According to the regulations published by the CIC, the only transportation to Bethlehem on Christmas Eve will be by Egged bus from the Egged parking lot in Talpott. The CIC also publishes information about the times and places of all Christian services — Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox — during Christmas and the entire year.

Louis Littman, 62; built Judaica library

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON — Louis Littman, who single-handedly established the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization — the largest library of serious Judaica in the English-speaking world — died here last week at the age of 62.

A London-born Cambridge graduate, Littman began setting up the library in 1965 in memory of his father. He heavily subsidized the publication of a series of books on all aspects of Jewish thought and life so that they would reach their readership at an affordable price.

Littman, a distinguished lawyer and industrialist who developed the UK's largest dairy and cheese-making company, served as vice chairman of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, chairman of the Jewish Literary Trust, and chairman of the library committee of Leo Baeck College.

A contributor to numerous Anglo-Jewish institutions, Littman endowed a visiting fellowship in Jewish theology, philosophy and law at the Oxford Centre for Post-Graduate Hebrew Studies.

Measles-mumps-rubella vaccine back in supply

Post Science and Health Reporter

A new shipment of the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine, meant for infants aged 15 months and older, has arrived and is being distributed to pharmacies around the country.

During the last few weeks there has been a local shortage of the triple vaccine, which is produced by

Merck Sharp and Dohme in the U.S. The vaccine is not given to infants at Tipat Halav family health care clinics because the Health Ministry says it cannot afford it. With one injection, children can be vaccinated, at their parents' expense, against three of the most common children's diseases.

IDF aiming for a smarter army

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

RAMAT GAN — The IDF will expand career officers' academic training programmes to develop a smarter army and retain people who would otherwise quit.

A senior military source said yesterday that close to 1,000 officers are already enrolled in academic institutions and the army wants to increase their numbers by 10 per cent over each of the next five years.

The number of officers holding academic degrees has increased considerably in the past 15 years, and 37 per cent of the incumbent career officers have at least some academic training. More than 70 per cent of colonels have academic degrees and 20 per cent are studying at university.

Technical studies are considered the most important and are required by the Ordnance, Signal and Intelligence Corps, the Air Force and Navy. Forty per cent of the students attending the Technion's electrical engineering department are connected with the army, which is paying their tuition.

In some instances the army will finance studies which may not benefit it at all, as was the case with an Air Force officer who took a course in cinema. The officer was considered so promising in his field that the air force felt it was worth the gesture, the source maintained.

Very few officers — usually from the Air Force, Navy, Signal Corps or computer experts — are sent abroad because the subjects they seek to study are not taught here. The arrangement under which the army pays the officer's tuition and provides a stipend stipulates that the officer must serve two years for each year of studies.

However, officers have a "psychological barrier" to committing themselves to many years of service, according to the senior military source. They are permitted to terminate the arrangement if they reim-

bursed the IDF. One Navy engineer recently had to pay NIS 17,000 to leave the service.

The programmes are designed mainly for lieutenants and captains because they are the ones considering making a career in the army. The IDF hopes its offer to pay for university studies will keep them in the service until their early 30s and then hopes to induce them to stay on.

In the meantime the IDF has been raising the standard of its own courses. A recently concluded agreement between the National Defence College and Haifa University provides that college graduates with a B.A. will be able to obtain an M.A. in political science from Haifa University after completing a short course. The Staff and Command College is amending its syllabus and Tel Aviv University is developing a military history programme for its graduates.

Haifa University recognizes the Navy's advanced course for commanders which includes some academic training, and Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba has been asked to recognize some of the courses given at the Air Force's Flying School.

1988 Israel Prize for Jewish Studies



Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz

The Ministry of Education and Culture yesterday announced that the 1988 Israel Prize for Jewish Studies would be awarded to Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and Professor Moshe Goshen-Gottstein.

Prof. Goshen was cited for his work in biblical research, his translations and commentaries, as well as his researches in Semitic linguistics, and his studies in the development of Hebrew and Hebrew-Arabic lexicography.

Rabbi Steinsaltz will receive the prize for his translation and annotation of the Babylonian Talmud, which he made accessible to a wide circle of Talmudic students. He founded the Israeli Institute for Talmudic Publications in 1965.

First public tenders for franchises issued

Cable TV feast seen after years of famine

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israeli television viewers, subjected for years to a beggar's diet of programmes, will in the coming years be able to choose from a menu of 18 to 24 channels of legal cable television. The first public tenders for exclusive cable television franchises in four areas were issued yesterday by the Council for Cable TV Broadcasts.

David Harnick, chairman of the council, told reporters that residents of the Kiryat Shmona and Bat Yam areas should be able to subscribe to legal cable TV within 18 months to two years. Soon to follow will be the Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv-Ayalon and Beersheba areas.

Harnick, a lawyer and recently appointed to the post by Communications Minister Gad Ya'acobi, said that legal cable television should be available to all residents in the 31 cable TV districts "within the next five or six years."

At the same time, Attorney-General Yosef Harish has promised the ministry that he, the police and the courts will do everything they can to root out "pirate" cable TV that is watched by hundreds of thousands of subscribers around the country. Satellite TV reception, via cables, will be available in most areas even before the cable TV franchises start operating, thus strong competition will work to force the "pirates" out of business, said Harnick.

The cable TV council will meet at the end of March as a public tender board to consider the offers from entrepreneurs who want to win the franchises. A single entrepreneur or company can legally win more than one of the 31 cable TV districts, and even all of them, but Harnick said it

was very unlikely that a single entrepreneur would get a countryside monopoly. The Broadcasting Authority will not be entitled to bid for a franchise. The names of those chosen by the board will be announced "no later than the end of July."

The applicants must, in an interview, display their expertise in the broadcasting field, as well as their suggested programming schedule and proof of their financial capacity to run the franchise. They must each deposit a bank guarantee of NIS 200,000. They must offer news, original dramas and other programmes, and not just broadcast imported programmes. The cable TV council will supervise general content.

Commercial advertising will not be allowed during the cable TV broadcasts until 1991, largely to give newspapers a chance to cope with reduced income from advertising.

In areas where over 25 per cent of the population is Arabic-speaking, programmes must have Arabic subtitles and Arabic programmes must be included. The cable TV scheme does not include the administered territories.

The release of the tenders was nearly delayed at the last minute by protests by the Bezek works committee, which is demanding that the public telecommunications company get "first refusal rights" to lay the cables for the franchisees. But Harish ruled this illegal. The cable TV council decided, however, to give Bezek a "legal advantage" by requiring the franchisees to "consult" with Bezek about its cable-laying offer. The entrepreneur does not have to accept the offer, but he must "hear" it. The works committee is concerned about the loss of jobs if it doesn't get the cable-laying job.

Yosef Lapid back at TV; this time on the screen

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Yosef (Tommy) Lapid, the former director-general of the Broadcasting Authority, returned yesterday to Television House. There was a little pressing of flesh, a couple of hugs, but no fanfare or red carpet. Lapid was on the premises purely as a visitor, although it can be said that he was a guest of honour.

He was there for a recording session of *From Generation to Generation: Fathers and Sons*. In a departure from precedent, the programme featured not two generations, but three. Appearing with Lapid were his father-in-law David Giladi, one of the founders of *Ma'ariv*, and his son Yair, who is the third generation of his family working as a *Ma'ariv* journalist. Yair's infant son Yoav was not brought to the studio.

The three older generations of the family embody various periods of this country's history. David Giladi, the son of a Hungarian rabbi, came here with the Fourth Aliya and was the first reporter for *Yedioth Aharanot*. Later, he and other notables from the afternoon daily walked out and started the competing publication.

A survivor of the Holocaust, the Yugoslav-born Lapid arrived in Is-

rael on his 17th birthday. The product of an assimilated family, his knowledge of Judaism was extremely limited. He was completely unacquainted at the time with phylacteries or the dietary prohibitions. Since then, he has learned a little more about his heritage. He was introduced to *Ma'ariv* by satirist Ephraim Kishon.

It was, all things considered, not at all unnatural for Yair Lapid, the Sabra in the trio, to follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. In fact, one of the subjects discussed on the programme was whether his choice of profession could be attributed to genetics or to environment.

The profession itself is the only common ground; the approaches and the styles are different. Giladi, according to his son-in-law, is a classicist. Lapid Sr., by his own description, writes in "an Anglo-Saxon style" translated into Hebrew. The younger Lapid is more influenced by the American brand of journalism.

The programme is scheduled for presentation in mid-February. Meanwhile, other recording sessions are planned with MK Avraham Shapira and one of his sons; and with the country's best-known tour guide, octogenarian Ze'ev Vilnai, and his son Matan.

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Ministry of Absorption Notice to New Immigrant Taxi Drivers

In accordance with the regulations published in the Official Regulations Digest No. 4951 of July 31, 1986, and the notice published in the Official Gazette, No. 3496 of November 5, 1987 on the subject of taxi licences, new immigrants may apply for taxi licences (public right to operate a taxi), subject to the following conditions:

- Applicant has been in the country less than six years.
- Drove a taxi in his country of origin during at least 5 of the 10 years which preceded his immigration to Israel.
- Own an Israeli taxi driver's licence.

Application forms are available at the economic units in Ministry of Absorption districts as follows:

- Tel Aviv — 6 Esther Hamalka St., Tel. 03-229154.
- Haifa — Zim Bldg., 7 Reh. Pal-Yam, Tel. 04-681322.
- Jerusalem — 15 Reh. Hillel, Tel. 02-24121.
- Beersheba — Binyan Haneghev, Sd. Hanesim, Tel. 057-30811.

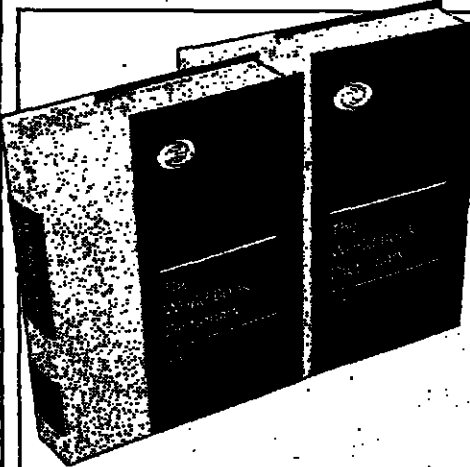
Applications are in the form of a declaration under oath to be signed in the presence of an advocate, notary public or court registrar.

Completed application forms must be submitted to the economic units of the Ministry of Absorption by December 31, 1987.

Applications reaching the Ministry of Absorption after this date will not be considered. Note to new immigrants: receipt of new immigrants' applications does not constitute an obligation to grant the applicants a taxi driver's licence.



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Iran Communists regrouping

THE IRANIAN Communist party, Tudeh, broken up nearly five years ago in a wave of mass arrests, has clandestinely regrouped inside Iran and established a new leadership operating outside the country, a party official disclosed here.

He said in an interview in Paris, where he attended the just-concluded 26th congress of the French Communist Party, that Iranian Communists backed an unconditional ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war ahead of a political settlement. The official, who requested anonymity, said the Tudeh Party over the long term wanted to see a "popular, democratic revolution" in Iran to consolidate the ideals of the 1979 revolt against the shah, which have been "corrupted" by the current leadership in Tehran.

He said that with the exception of those seeking to restore the monarchy, the party would be prepared to cooperate with all forces opposed to

Soraya Moaven
PARIS

Iran's present Islamic fundamentalist government.

Some 10,000 Tudeh members and sympathizers throughout Iran were arrested in February 1983, including most of the party leadership. Tudeh leaders, who are still being held, eventually issued televised "confessions," accusing themselves of having spied on behalf of the Soviet Union. Iranian authorities officially banned the party on May 4, 1983 and expelled 18 Soviet diplomats posted in Tehran.

In November of that year, 10 soldiers who were members of Tudeh were executed, including the former commander-in-chief of the Iranian Navy, Captain Bahram Afzali.

But a number of Tudeh militants have since been released and, ac-

ording to the party official, clandestine cells have been reconstituted inside Iran, along with affiliated youth and women's organizations. Their "political and social" activities are closely coordinated with the party's new leadership, which has regrouped outside Iran, he said.

A TUDEH plenary assembly held in 1984 at a location that has never been disclosed saw the initial steps toward reorganization. A national conference held in secret two years later put together the new party leadership, with Ali Khavari named first secretary.

Naheh Mardom (The Letter of the People), the official Tudeh publication, said at the time that the conference examined the party's "political line since the 1979 Iranian revolution and its new programme in light of necessary modifications."

The official maintained that "the worst of the struggle is over" and

that time was on the party's side. But he acknowledged that many difficulties remained in the face of the present "dictatorial" government in Iran.

"None of the forces in the country constitutes an alternative to the present authorities," he said. He stressed the need to form a "popular anti-imperialist coalition" that would struggle for the release of all prisoners of conscience held in Iran and an end to the war with Iraq, which only serves the interests of international arms dealers.

Asked about reported conflicts within the party, when some leaders reportedly criticized what they called Tudeh's subservience to Moscow, the official said that at the 1986 conference the dissidents were expelled by a unanimous vote. The action was taken, he explained, "not because of their opinions but because they had not respected party procedures." (Agence France Presse)



Iraqi women urged to bear more children

Ian Mather
BASRA

FRESHLY-PRINTED notices appeared on public buildings throughout Iraq last week urging women to "do your duty."

With a large-scale Iranian offensive seemingly imminent it might well have been a call to arms. In fact, the notices signalled the start of an official nationwide campaign urging women to bear more children. Iraq's birthrate of 3.4 per cent would normally be well above what is needed to maintain a stable population level.

But the decimation of nearly a generation of young males by the war has sent Iraq's population into steep decline.

Iraq's population is barely more than a third that of Iran, making Iraq unwilling to risk heavy casualties, with losses estimated at 350,000. To date the government is becoming increasingly concerned about the long-term demographic problem of being heavily outnumbered.

New incentives to women having children include extra payments of £50 a month and extended maternity leave from six to 12 months, with full pay for the first six months and half for the remaining six months. Free diapers are also being dispensed.

IN THE short term, there are unlikely to be many qualifiers in embattled Basra, Iraq's second city, which formerly had a population over one million. With the Iranian front-line only 11 miles away, much of the city is deserted apart from troops.

Iranian shelling has reduced the fashionable suburbs next to the Shatt al Arab waterway to rubble. A continuous sandbag wall along the corniche by the Shatt looks like preparations for a tidal wave, which in a sense it is.

From the direction of the Iranian lines to the west, the rumble of artillery sounds like a distant thunder. Three women in black chadors pick their way across boulders that had once formed house walls to proclaim their defiance of Khomeini and their determination never to be driven from their homes.

In the city centre only a few shops, heavily protected by sandbags, are open, and the rest, judging by their rusting locks and broken windows, look as though their owners have gone for good.

This year alone, 61,979 shells have fallen on the city, according to Basra's governor, Anwar Sayeed al-Hadithi. Since the war began 1,758 Basra civilians have been killed and 7,047 wounded. More shells were added to that total recently when 27 fell on a local paper factory, which luckily was deserted as it was Martyrs' Day, a national holiday to commemorate Iraq's war victims.

Though the eastern parts of the city furthest away from the Iranians are still populated, it is hard to credit it is an official estimate that over 800,000 people are still in the city,

but were "taking an afternoon siesta" during our visit.

POPULATION conservation is a much-repeated theme among the Iraqi military leadership and is a strong influence on Iraq's preparations against the forthcoming Iranian offensive. The Iraqis contrast their own caution with the costly "human wave" tactics employed by Iran.

"In addition to being concerned about human life for its own sake we have to conserve our human resources," General Abdel Jabbar Mohsen, director of political guidance for the Iraqi armed forces, said last week.

"We observe one of the principles of war, which is to economize on human resources. That's why we have not made any offensive to take control of areas of strategic importance despite our capability to do so. Such action would incur losses."

Between the Iranians and Basra, the Iraqis have constructed three lines of huge earthworks behind which their troops wait. From a helicopter flying west of the city, I also saw numerous formations of rearmaments bulldozed out of the sand, some of which were occupied by tanks, anti-aircraft guns and anti-aircraft missiles. Scattered among them were rows of tents, and troops could be seen standing in lines or running across the sand.

RECENTLY, Iran claimed that five million people had responded to its mobilization campaign, which began on November 18. It proclaimed that it would "inflict continuous blows without respite."

There have already been two minor offensives, both in the north, one of which is still going on. These are thought to be diversions aimed at drawing Iraqi troops away from the area of the real offensive around Basra.

Western sources in Iraq confirm Iraq's assessment that Iranian claims are a wild exaggeration and that the build-up opposite Basra is around 250,000, which is fewer than last year.

The sources also believe that the Iranian troops are less well trained than those which took part in the offensive early this year, and that their morale is probably lower because of the Iranian leadership's repeated promises that the offensive would be the final one.

In recent interviews arranged by the London-based Arab Research Centre, Iraqi political and military leaders were noticeably more bullish than at the time of this year's spring offensive when the Iraqis at one stage got to within six miles of the centre of Basra.

"This will be the last kick of a dying man," said General Mohsen of the expected offensive. "We are going to defeat the Iraqis."

Western observers say the Iraqis have worked hard to improve the static defences of Basra, and reformed their ground forces to make them more mobile.

The economy is improving, with oil exports up to two million barrels a day as the result of a new pipeline through Turkey.

Above all, Baghdad has been buoyed by the surge of support from

Arab governments at the recent Amman summit, with Syria, Iran's ally, looking as though it may change sides.

"Strategically we have no worries except over the loss of human life," said Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. "We are always worried about the human cost. Our information is that it will be a big offensive, similar to the one that took place earlier this year, but that much of the technical preparation is not of the same quality."

HOWEVER, Iraq's military passivity could provide the Iraqis with openings for surprise moves for which they have an aptitude.

It is even possible that Iraq's military preparations have a political dimension to try to counter Security Council Resolution 598, which demands an immediate cease-fire. This was hinted at in New York last week, where Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larijani said that Iran might unleash its offensive if the UN did not agree to one of its long-standing demands and name Iraq as the aggressor.

However, an offensive could rebound against Iran by increasing the possibility of international sanctions against it.

"If such an aggression takes place, the Security Council cannot do nothing," Tariq Aziz said. "It will be a challenge to the resolution and an insult to the council. The Security Council will have to take very strong action."

(London Observer Service)



An Iraqi woman and her son walk in the city of Basra, shattered by Iranian shelling. (AFP)

Author Mahfouz paid the price of peace

Ya'acov Lamdam



Nagib Mahfouz

NAGIB MAHFOUZ, considered the father of the Arab novel and one of the century's most prolific Arab writers, last week marked his 76th birthday, still at the height of his literary powers.

Mahfouz was also one of the few outstanding Egyptian intellectuals who supported Sadat's initiative from the beginning, spoke out in support of peace with Israel and paid the penalty by having all his works banned in the Arab world. For a writer of Mahfouz's stature, this was a heavy price to pay.

Even his recent books have not reached other Arab countries. On the material level, the damage is even greater. The number of books printed in each edition has been halved since the ban. Peace, it seems, exacts a high price from intellectuals, journalists as well as writers. Perhaps this is the reason why Egyptian intellectuals, even those who are not Nasserists, have not spoken out in support of peace.

Nagib Mahfouz is one of the Egyptian writers best known to Israelis. Among those of his novels translated into Hebrew is the *Trilogy*, a work more than 1,000 pages in length that he wrote at the end of

the Fifties, in which he lays bare the social and personal relations prevailing over three generations of a lower-class Cairo family. Other novels familiar to the Israeli reader are *Miramar*, *A Cairo Alley*, *The Thief and the Dogs*, *Love Under the Rain* and *Conversations on the Nile* — the last was dramatized and presented by the Haifa Theatre. Several of his books have been translated into other languages, particularly French and English.

Israeli Middle East specialists like Professor Shmuel Moreh and Dr. Mattityahu Peled have studied, translated and taught Mahfouz's work. Moreh, in his introduction to the Hebrew translation of *Love Under the Rain*, describes the author as a great Arab humanist, possessing a unique style, who draws a bold, authentic and unflinching portrait of Egyptian society.

Mahfouz's work is well known even to uneducated Egyptians, as so many of his books have been produced as films. In a recent interview with an Egyptian journal, Mahfouz commented that it was appropriate for writers to exploit every medium at their disposal to reach the widest possible audience. Of course, this is especially so since his books are now printed in editions of 10,000 instead of 20,000 — which is the case with his latest publication, *The Day the Leader Was Assassinated*, which relates the events within a family around the time of Sadat's assassination. However, the book will be made into a film, and as a result, millions will have the chance to see it as they have seen over a dozen of his other films.

MAHFOUZ, a delightful individual, has a regular daily routine from which he never departs. He rises at 5 a.m., goes for an hour-long walk through the streets of Cairo, frequents his favourite cafe for a cup of coffee and a glance at the morning papers and returns home. He devotes only six months of the year — four hours a day — to his literary output. He spends each September in Alexandria. He has never travelled abroad and has no desire to do so.

Though increasingly troubled with deafness and diabetes, he continues to write and has just finished his 49th novel, *Kashamar*, called after a street in the old quarter of Cairo and a coffee-house of the same name. The novel is a lively account of the comings and goings and public and private lives of its patrons. It contains a penetrating critique of various aspects of Egyptian society and government.

At 76, Mahfouz is proud of the status he has achieved in Arab literature. He is hopeful that interest in his books will continue to grow and that the ban will soon, at last, be withdrawn from his works.

HABIB BOURGUIBA is no longer president of Tunisia but he is still the man who matters most in Monastir.

While the rest of Tunisia busies itself dismantling the personality cult of "the Supreme Combatant" who ruled this country for 31 years, his hometown defiantly proclaims its allegiance.

Visitors flying into Habib Bourguiba International Airport arrive in a living monument to the deposed president. Portraits of the young "father of the nation," bearing scant resemblance to the 84-year-old man declared senile and replaced last month, hang from nearly every lamp-post and adorn the entrances of most cafes and hotels.

References to the man who took

Jonathan Clayton
MONASTIR, Tunisia

over, Bourguiba's own strong-arm Prime Minister Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali, are strangely absent.

In most other towns, pictures and posters of Ben Ali sprang up hours after the changeover while newspapers and television reports previously full of Bourguiba's exploits suddenly contained no mention of him.

Since then, other symbols of Bourguiba's rule have been quietly fading away and plans to build a \$3 million monument to the deposed leader were shelved in the name of austerity.

Bourguiba's birthplace has more

to remember, and much to be thankful for. Grants lavished on this ancient east coast fishing port during Bourguiba's rule transformed it into an affluent tourist for the country's booming tourist trade.

BOURGUIBA is still under house arrest at a palace just outside the capital, Tunis.

The new leaders have frequently stressed Bourguiba will be treated with the dignity befitting a man who steered this small North African state from independence from France in 1956 to one of the most Western-orientated states in the Arab world. (Reader)

The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Litani.

(Continued from Page One)

200 angry youths. UN and hospital sources confirmed that one man, Mahmoud Sahla, 22, of Jabalya, died in the confrontation. Palestinian sources claimed a second man, Ibrahim Dakar, 23, also died in the gunfire.

IDF spokesmen said the army had fired into the hospital courtyard only after youths began attacking the troops with petrol bombs. But eyewitnesses inside the hospital, including this reporter, saw youths throwing stones but not petrol bombs at troops from the hospital courtyard.

A funeral held later in the day for A-Sahla in Jabalya became the scene for the third killing, when IDF forces confronted angry demonstrators and mourners in Jabalya.

Estimates of the wounded from yesterday's clashes ranged from the IDF's figure of 11 to 21 or more according to Palestinian sources. Many families were reportedly afraid to bring their relatives to local hospitals because of rumours that they would be transferred to Israeli hospitals, only to be detained later.

Gaza lawyer Fayez Abu Rahme, in an interview at Shifa Hospital before the afternoon confrontation with the army, blamed the widespread unrest on "20 years of frustration."

He said it was the "fiercest fighting" in the history of the Israeli occupation, and charged that it came after the Israeli administration had "blocked all roads to peace," and the Arab League and superpowers had virtually ignored the Palestinian problem.

The high casualty toll yesterday in Gaza came despite intensive efforts by security forces officials to limit the use of gunfire in Gaza-crowd control.

Following the death Monday of a Khan Yunis demonstrator and ensu-

FOUR DIE

ing escalation of rioting, strict orders were issued by security forces personnel to limit gunfire to an absolute minimum, and not to fire on crowds except in life-threatening situations.

Particular attention was given to Border Police, responsible for a number of fatal shootings in recent days and charged yesterday with primary riot control in refugee camps.

In Rafah, U.S. network news crews were prevented by soldiers from filming an apparent beating of a youth by IDF soldiers. The incident took place in a house located just metres from the Egyptian border.

Crews from ABC, CBS, and other networks reportedly heard screams issuing from one house, and tried to film an arrestee was allegedly forcibly dragged back into the house and beaten by IDF troops.

According to crew members, the troops' commanding officer approached the cameras and forbade filming the scene.

Joel Greenberg adds:

There was a sharp drop in disturbances reported yesterday in the West Bank. Security sources warned, however, that the incidents in and around East Jerusalem in reaction to Ariel Sharon's move into the Old City's Moslem Quarter could be a catalyst for a renewed cycle of unrest in the area.

Several hundred students demonstrated inside the campus of Birzeit University without incident. The IDF kept a watch on the protest, but did not intervene. The students marched around the campus behind a Palestinian flag, chanting nationalist slogans, eyewitnesses said. Speakers condemned Israeli policies in the territories, referring to Sharon's move into the Old City, and the shootings of Palestinian protesters in the Gaza Strip and the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. Border Police manning roadblocks prevented Israeli vehicles and journalists from entering the area.

A commercial strike was in force in Ramallah, and troops forced shopkeepers to reopen, welding at least one shop shut. Searches were also conducted in homes in the city, a resident said.

Chief of General Staff Shomron toured the northern West Bank yesterday, and visited troops posted near Balata, where the curfew was lifted Monday night. Military sources said OC Central Command Amram Mizna entered the camp and spoke with local residents, urging them to help restore order. They said Mizna met with Border Police officers at the scene, and told them their behavior toward camp residents should be the same as their treatment of civilians in Israel. The Border Police commander in the West Bank is conducting an investigation into vandalism in the camp on Friday, which according to residents was carried out by border policemen.

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel yesterday recommended that the investigation be conducted by an independent body, and that conclusions be drawn if necessary regarding specific persons found responsible for the vandalism.

The East Jerusalem *A-Shaab* newspaper has been banned for distribution in the West Bank until December 26, on grounds that it violated censorship in an editorial published Sunday. Representatives of the newspaper said they were told the editorial, which called recent shootings of Palestinian rioters "cold-blooded murder," was inflammatory.

SHARON

(Continued from Page One)

sought the apartment of one of Sharon's Arab neighbours yesterday afternoon. The neighbours said that the house had been turned "upside down," with furniture knocked over, a safe broken open, and belongings scattered everywhere.

A top police official said his men had conducted a "standard search" in compliance with a court order authorizing them to look for explosives.

Sharon's guests included Transport Minister Haim Corin, Justice and Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, MK Avraham Shapira (Agudat Yisrael), MK Goula Cohen (Tehiya), MK Rafael Eitan (Tzomet), Ruby Rivlin, chairman of Likud's Jerusalem branch, former chief rabbi Shlomo Goren, former Shin Bet executive Yossi Ginnossar, Gershon Solomon, head of the Faithful Of The Temple Mount, and Marti Dan, head of the Ateret Cohanim organization committed to Jewish settlement of the Moslem Quarter.

As the guests crowded into Sharon's two-room apartment, a 2.5-metre high electric hanukia lit up the roof of the building.

Herut Central Committee member Moshe Amirav stood outside Sharon's building in protest. "I have no problems with Jews living here [in the Moslem Quarter]," he said.

"But I don't think that a minister should come here in a provocative way at the worst possible time."

But Shamir made it clear that he did not share Amirav's views as he left the gala event.

"There's no provocation in this," he said. "Jews have lived here, and Jews will live here." Asked about the wave of disturbances on the eve of Sharon's housewarming, he replied, "This is not the first time, unfortunately, that there are disturbances."

But yesterday's disturbances were uncharacteristically plentiful.

A group of Palestinian women and youths marched towards Sharon's house from the Al-Aksa mosque a few hours before the candle-lighting ceremony and were dispersed with tear gas after the youths threw stones at Sharon's house, police said.

Five Arabs were arrested in the morning after tyres were burned and rocks thrown near the Atarot airport in north Jerusalem. An iron pipe was thrown at an Israeli car on Salah e-Din Street in East Jerusalem. Rocks shattered the windows of an Egged bus on the Shuafat road and a military vehicle travelling near Atarot at around noon.

Egged bus number 96 was stoned near the Intercontinental Hotel on the Mount of Olives at about noon.

CLASH

(Continued from Page One)

were then sent into action, and one of the pilots spotted a light armoured vehicle and destroyed it. Israeli fire also hit an enemy storage dump, the IDF reported.

Meanwhile, reports that Israeli troops, backed by tanks and helicopter gunships, were advancing un-

der artillery cover caused panic in the area. The reports said the force was moving towards Maydoun, Ain al-Tineh and Kafr Huneh, which are only four kilometres from the Syrian positions at Mashgarah. Thousands of Syrian troops reportedly went on maximum alert and scores of Hizbullah and Amal fighters were mobilized.

DEFENDS

(Continued from Page One)

Israeli troops use rubber bullets and that Israel create a special riot control unit that would not use lethal force in stopping demonstrations.

On Monday, Murphy told the House foreign affairs subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East that the continued state of war between Israel and its Arab neighbors has resulted in an atmosphere of "tension and mistrust. This environment produces protest demonstrations by Palestinians, acts of violence by both Palestinians and Israeli settlers, and harsh security measures by Israeli occupation authorities which are sometimes inconsistent with recognized international standards."

The Americans previously have also urged Israel to establish special riot police.

In a related development, Sha-

mir's media adviser, Avi Pazner, yesterday denied reports that Shamir and Chief of General Staff Rav Aluf Dan Shomron were considering closing off the territories entirely to the media.

Pazner, who is responsible for the Government Press Office, said the two had merely discussed the "damage caused by TV coverage of the riots" and that the advantages of closure of the areas "may have been mentioned by somebody in passing but not as a proposal." Pazner said he decided to issue a denial of an earlier radio report on the matter, noting that "the report in itself could have caused Israel unnecessary damage."

Authoritative military sources last night, however, left open the possibility that specific sites will be declared "closed military areas" while there are disturbances.

SPORTS

SOCCER

Israel seek revenge against Swiss

Post Sports Staff
Israel's national soccer team take the field tonight in an international friendly game against Switzerland. The Swiss coach Daniel Jandouffe said, after arriving in Israel, that he rated the Israeli team as being on a par with Malta and Albania, but better than Luxembourg.

It is not clear whether this evaluation is meant to be complimentary or not. When the teams last met in May in Switzerland, the Swiss won 1-0, but the margin would have been greater, if Israel had not been saved by some brilliant goalkeeping by the late Avi Ran.

Nevertheless, the Swiss are taking tonight's fixture very seriously. Within 90 minutes of their arrival on Sunday at Ben-Gurion Airport, they were practising hard at Ramat Gan. Their stars are two veterans, midfielder Heinz Hermann, who is playing his 81st game for Switzerland, and sweeper Alan Geiger.

Israel take the field without two of their international stars, Ronnie Rosenthal and Eli Ohana, who are both playing in Belgium today. But Avi Cohen, of Glasgow Rangers, will definitely be in Israel's starting line-up, although it is not yet clear in what position he will play.

National coach Milenko Mihic has sprung a surprise by dropping Bonnie Ginsburg, who seemed to have established a firm place in the international team as successor to Avi Ran. But he made a mistake that Ran never made — although he kept his goal intact, he opened his mouth too wide to the press, and Mihic is disciplining him. His place in goal will be taken by either Ofer Fabian or Avi Hadad, both of whom will be very eager to seize any opportunity given to them to make the Olympic team that will play in Oceania in a few months time.

Mihic is still considering how to organize the talents at his disposal. He may well start with Daniel Brailovsky and Yigal Menahem as strikers, although there are still doubts about Menahem's fitness. If he is



SAFE HANDS BUT A BIG MOUTH. Bonnie Ginsburg has been dropped from the national side for talking too much to the press. (Hanoach Guttmann)

unfit, this may provide a chance for Maccabi Tel Aviv's promising youngster, Shahar Baril, to appear in the starting line-up instead of being used as a substitute as hitherto.

Israeli fans have a tendency to regard these friendlies as comparatively unimportant soccer events. But, with time pressing on their backs before Mihic makes his final

selections for Oceania, for the players it is vital to prove their worth to Mihic, and the Swiss players similarly have to convince their coach that they are international material. So a much harder and more exciting game than the average friendly, with much more commitment on the part of the players, can be expected tonight.

Maxwell stymied by League

LONDON (AP) — The English Football League demanded yesterday that publisher Robert Maxwell drop all his interests in three English professional soccer clubs before he could take over a fourth, Watford.

Maxwell gave no immediate response to the League edict.

A meeting of the League's management committee threw out a compromise agreement struck earlier this month between Maxwell and League president Philip Carter.

That agreement gave Maxwell the go-ahead to buy rock star Elton John's controlling share of First Division Watford provided the publisher relinquished all his family's interests in another First Division club, Oxford United, chaired by his son, Kevin.

But the League's management committee decided yesterday that the compromise did not go far enough and requested that the publisher also relinquish the chairmanship of First Division Derby County, and dispose of his shares in Second Division Reading.

Welsh want rule change

ZURICH. (Reuter) — The International Football Federation (FIFA) is considering a change in the qualifying rules for European countries in the 1990 world cup following a request from Wales.

The Welsh FA protested against the decision not to hold play-offs to decide which two go through to the finals from those placed second in the four-team groups.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said that the other countries in the three four-team groups had been consulted for their opinions.

Happy Valley, Bradford

BRADFORD (AP) — Two and a half years after a fire-raged through the main stand, killing 56 people and leaving a whole community numb with grief, Bradford city soccer team is sweeping toward the English First Division.

Backed by a tide of emotional support and a new, enthusiastic manager, the modest club from the heart of England's industrial north is sitting proudly high up in the Second Division, with one-third of the season completed.

Now, for the first time since 1922, Valley Parade stadium looks like staging First Division soccer. "Bradford's bouncing back," say car stickers and banners waved at matches.

The events of May 11, 1985, when a discarded cigarette fell through the rickety, wooden main stand and ignited a mass of debris underneath, have left a permanent scar on the city.

A judicial inquiry into the blaze partly blamed the club and opened the way for dozens of compensation

claims, many of which are still being processed, from relatives of the dead and maimed.

At the same time, stringent new safety regulations were introduced at soccer stadiums throughout the country.

But, with a team that diehard supporters say is the best for generations, backed by a determination to fight adversity, the crowds are pouring back to the rebuilt, pristine Valley Parade, dubbed the "Valley of Death" after the fire.

"I suppose we will always be tagged with the fire, just as the 1958 Munich air disaster is tagged with Manchester United," said manager Terry Dolan.

Eight team members of the famous Manchester team were among 23 people who died in a plane crash while returning from a European champions cup match in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

"It's something we will always have to carry," Dolan said. "But people don't want to talk

about the fire any more. Our recent success has come despite the fire, not because of it."

Dolan, the first Bradford native to manage the local team, was an unknown when he took over in January, moving up from first-team coach to replace the sacked Trevor Cherry.

The club was at the bottom of the Second Division standings, with little prospect of generating the £2.6 m. spent rebuilding the antiquated stadium within just 26 weeks of the inferno.

But, by changing the system of play — bringing in a sweeper to plug the holes in defence while maintaining a swift, passing game — Dolan pulled City out of trouble and into a comfortable mid-table position by last season's end.

As the manager ensured that improvements on the field kept pace with innovations off it, commercial interest in the club boomed and Bradford's directors awarded Dolan a new five-year contract.

"I'm not surprised we are doing so well because our form in the back half of last season was second to none," he said. "All we are doing now is carrying on the same way, strengthened by a couple of new players bought during the summer."

Dolan knows there will be slip-ups along the way. "My strength is getting the best out of the players. But we only have 16 full-time professionals and obviously, the squad will have to be increased when we get promotion."

Unlike previous Bradford City teams, the club is holding on to its star assets. Midfielder and captain Stuart McCall, and winger John Hendrie, are valued at £750,000 each.

Dolan says Bradford has had verbal offers from the top teams, but won't sell. It's an attitude that is exciting the fans.

"Previously, the club would have snatched the hand off anyone asking big money for a player," said Brian Defurey, chairman of the Bradford City Supporters Club.

"But this is the best team I've seen here in 38 years. We have one of the most modern stadiums in the country and the directors are resisting offers for our best players. To me, that means they have the ambition to take the club forward."

"There is a determination to look forward. The best memorial to those who died is what is happening to the club now," Defurey said. "There is a togetherness, a bond between the supporters, the players and the officials that I have never felt before."

NFL — Monday's only game: New York Rangers 4, Detroit Red Wings 3.

NBA — Monday's only game: Utah Jazz 116, Seattle SuperSonics 95.

CRICKET

England accept Pakistani umpires

KARACHI (Reuter) — Pakistan and England have agreed on two local umpires for the third cricket test, averting the threat of another row, a senior Pakistani cricket official said yesterday.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCBP) secretary Ejaz Butt told reporters England manager Peter Lush had been offered Mahboob Shah and Khizar Hayat for the game and had accepted.

"The touring team had no objection to the two umpires," he said. The third and final test of England's troubled tour begins today.

The PCBP approached New Delhi to try to get two Indians to stand in the match but the two umpires asked for, Ram Babu Gupta and P.D. Reporter, are already busy in India's match against West Indies in Bombay.

England were told they could choose from a panel of Pakistani Test umpires for the final Test of their ill-fated tour.

"If they don't want the umpires which we offer, they can have the ones they like," said Pakistan manager Haseeb Ahsan.

Bitter umpiring rows disrupted the first two Tests of the 37-day tour, and the officials for the final test had not been named only hours before it was due to start.

Ahsan contrasted this with the treatment Pakistan received from England's Test and County Cricket

Board (TCCB) during their tour earlier this year.

"I wasn't given the choice last summer in England to pick the umpires we preferred. Despite our requests, the TCCB refused to change David Constant and Ken Palmer," he said. "But we have more grace and hospitality."

In Bombay, the West Indies took a belated first innings lead on the fourth day of the second Test yesterday, but the day belonged to the Indian bowlers who raised the tourists' hopes of a big score.

West Indies were 327 for nine at the close, leading by 44 on the first innings but with only a faint hope of forcing a result on the final day today.

Although Richie Richardson made the biggest total of 89 runs, he was out after nearly four hours, the day revealed again the West Indians' dependence on their skipper Viv Richards.

opener Gordon Greenidge went early to a catch off Ravi Shastri for 15, and when the last-run spinner dismissed Desmond Haynes for 58, Richards and Richardson had it all to do.

But Richardson, on full song with 37 runs to his name, was bowled by a beautiful delivery from Mansoor Singh that lifted past the West Indians' man to remove his offside bail.

With Richardson gone, Gus Lloggie ran out the very next ball for no score and only 146 runs on the scoreboard, the visitors put the spinners up and their heads down, with Richardson playing the sweeper role.

He looked set for his century before medium-pace Chetan Sharma had him for 11, a decision which obviously upset the West Indians.

In Adelaide, the second Test between Australia and New Zealand petered out to an uneventful draw with the match finishing 38 minutes early yesterday. New Zealand hosted virtually all day to finish at 182 for seven, Allan Border took three slip catches, and was named "Man of the Match".

New Zealand 485 for 9 dec. and 182 for 7. Australia 485.

Gatting isn't welcome any more

KARACHI (Reuter) — England cricket captain Mike Gatting would not be welcome back in Pakistan, the Pakistan team manager, Haseeb Ahsan, said yesterday. "Nobody will ever forget the way he behaved with the umpire," Ahsan told reporters in Karachi. "The words he used to umpire Shakoor Rana result in murders in this country. Imagine the youngsters who have seen him in the match and on the screen. What impression will they carry of England and Englishmen? I think it was atrocious."

Gatting said he would never play cricket in Pakistan again after a simmering row over the umpiring exploded in a public quarrel with Rana in the second test last week.

The two were seen by millions of television viewers having a blazing argument and the England skipper was pressured by England cricket authorities into signing an apology.

Rana said Gatting had abused and sworn at him but the England players insisted the umpire was the first to use bad language.

"I think the way Gatting behaved, he will never be welcomed in Pakistan," Ahsan said. "I'm glad he will not be coming to Pakistan again." The Pakistan manager accused the Middlesex batsman of also undermining the authority of umpires in England during the Pakistani tour last summer.

TENNIS

Bloom's doubles climb

BY JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter
TEL AVIV — Israel's No. 2 tennis player Gilad Bloom, 20, has cracked the top 100-mark for the first time in the world doubles rankings, with his



EYE ON THE BALL. — Dahlia Coriat. (Hanoach Guttmann)

recent successes at Nabisco Grand Prix meets in Ramat Hasharon and Brazil lifting him to the low 80s on the ATP computer.

After last month winning successive \$105,000 doubles tournaments here and in Sao Paulo, Bloom and Amos Mansdorf (partnered respectively by Israeli Shabar Perkis and Spaniard Javez Sanchez) played

together and got as far as the quarter-finals of the \$515,000 Brazil Open in Itapirica.

Gilad is the first Israeli for nearly a year to be ranked in the top 100 in doubles. Shlomo Glickstein having dropped below this mark last January.

In singles, Bloom is around 140 in the standings, following a useful season, which included winning his first pro-tennis title two months ago in the \$50,000 ATP Challenger Series event in Estoril, Portugal.

Gilad has so far earned \$71,000 in prize money during 1987, compared to only \$12,500 in the previous 12 months.

Another Israeli climbing up the ladder is 17-year-old Boaz Merenstein. Boaz has moved from 421 to around 345 in the singles rankings, after finishing an impressive fourth on the ATP's \$25,000 Frankel satellite circuit held here recently.

Merenstein — who just missed selection for Israel's Davis Cup team against India — has now overtaken Glickstein on the ATP computer, to become the fifth Israeli in the rankings, behind Mansdorf, Bloom, Amit Naor and Perkis. A total of 1,200 players appear in the world singles rankings.

Dahlia Coriat won the all-Israeli girls' final in the under-18 Eddie Herr International Junior tournament in Delray Beach Florida over the weekend. She beat 15-year-old Yael Segal in the final.

DAVIS CUP

Edberg doubtful for final

GOTHENBURG, Sweden (Reuter) — Swedish ace Stefan Edberg sprained his right ankle in training on Monday putting his participation in this weekend's Davis Cup final against India in jeopardy.

"My foot is swollen at the moment, so all I can do is rest and see what it looks like tomorrow," Edberg told Reuters by telephone from his hotel room in Gothenburg.

Edberg, the world number two, declined to speculate on whether he would be fit for Friday's opening matches, saying: "This has not happened to me in the past seven or eight years. It would be very sad if I couldn't play, but I'm sure we will win the final without me on court," Edberg said.

Sweden's non-playing captain Hans Olsson can wait until Thursday's draw to replace Edberg if necessary.

The other Swedes on the team, bidding to regain the Davis Cup title they lost to Australia in last year's final, are Mats Wilander, Anders Jarryd and Joakim Nyström. Sweden are in their fifth successive final and will play India on an indoor clay court, the same surface they beat United States on in the 1984 final here.

NFL

49ers new 'Crazylegs' helps shut out Bears

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Jerry Rice caught three touchdown passes and Steve Young, replacing the injured Joe Montana, threw for four scores on Monday night as San Francisco routed turnover-plagued Chicago 41-0 to take command of the National Football Conference race for the Super Bowl.

Rice made scoring catches of 1, 2 and 16 yards of passes from Young, increasing his season touchdown total to 18 and extending to 11 his string of games with at least one touchdown.

Rice, who caught eight passes for 75 yards, tied the consecutive-game record set by Elroy "Crazylegs" Hirsch in 1950-51 and tied by Buddy Dial in 1959-60. The 18 touchdowns ties a record for touchdown receptions set three years ago by Miami's Mark Clayton.

Young, who replaced Montana midway through the first quarter when the San Francisco starter went out with a hamstring pull, made the most of his nine completions. He threw the three touchdown passes to Rice and also connected on a 13-yard scoring pass to Dwight Clark.

The 49ers improved to 11-2, best record in the NFL, while the Bears fell to 10-3. San Francisco also maintained a one-game lead over New Orleans in the NFC West and took a one-game edge over Chicago and Washington in the race for the home-field advantage in the playoffs.

AN OPEN LETTER TO TODD WARNICK

Mottie Dannenberg

I've read your opinion piece published in *The Jerusalem Post* on December 13, 1987. You wrote this piece from your position as a referee in the Israel Basketball League.

I have given a great deal of thought to it, and have reached the conclusion that, as a lover of the game and as a member of the management of a team in the league, I have a responsibility to respond. I do this knowing that I will not be putting myself in the best position vis-a-vis the Referees' Association but believe that the *Post* readers deserve a broader perspective.

I am very happy that you have raised the problem of refereeing. The real problem is the low professional level of referees compared to the high quality of the players and the games. Right now the level of the game is far above the level of the referees. Every game gets out of hand very early.

For you to blame the whole situation on the question of management sitting on the bench is just a poor excuse. For basketball purposes, Israel is part of Europe. All over Europe, and in Israel, management sit on the bench, for basketball purposes. The U.S. has a different custom.

You state that it would be impossible to imagine Red Auerbach sitting on the bench of the Boston Celtics. That may be true; but I find it equally ridiculous to envisage you and most of your colleagues officiating an NBA game.

You say that in one week in November no less than four teams were found guilty by the Israel Basketball Association's disciplinary committee. Three of the four cases were yours.

Did you ever ask yourself why, in most of the games that you officiate, the players, management and fans seem automatically more tense than with any other official?

You say that all four teams were found guilty by the IBA Disciplinary Committee. Unfortunately, you did not describe the methods they use. As one of the directors suspended by you, let me say that I thought you were 100 per cent wrong in your action. After reading what you wrote in *The Jerusalem Post*, I now think you are 150 per cent wrong.

This is what happened, from my perspective, on November 22 in a cup game against Galil Elyon at Holon. At a certain point, one of the visiting players hung on the rim after trying to get a rebound. As you well know, this is against the rules. Nothing was called.

I was sitting near the basket where this occurred. Both teams then went to the other end of the court. You were the deep referee under the other basket. I called out to the outside referee, Asa, closest to me, to pay attention next time, and to watch for players hanging on the rim. You were nowhere near me at that time. You saw me talking to the second referee and came over and threw me out without knowing anything about what had transpired. From the other end of the court you simply couldn't have heard me. If Asa was upset, why didn't he say something to me?

Because of this action, I was called to the disciplinary committee. History has shown that 99 per cent of the time the committee sides with the referee. You were not in attendance, only myself, the accused. I was to be disciplined for unsportsmanlike conduct. No chance was given to me to explain or to confront you in front of them. I couldn't even appeal. Sometimes bad behaviour deserves to be punished but it's impossible to comprehend that management and players can be punished for errors, while referees, who are after all only human beings, are never punished for their mistakes.

There is a point in your article with which I do agree. You mention that the Referees' Association is not in agreement on how to react to management on the bench. The problem here is that there are far more serious problems on which they also do not agree. For example, how to improve their own level of competence?

You make the point that the players and coaches don't tell the management to shut up because the management pays their salaries. Mr. Warnick, can you imagine in your wildest dreams, Larry Bird going to Red Auerbach and telling him to shut up?

Unfortunately, at this point in time I think that management are more professional than the referees. While I agree that some management may still have a long way to go, they are all making far more efforts to improve the situation than are the referees.

I don't think that the problem is only with the Referees' Association. I would like to suggest that the clubs must help. Each club must put money into the Referees' Association, so that the officiating can become more professional. It is an impossible situation, whereby a man finishes his regular job at four o'clock, after working hard all day, and then goes to officiate a basketball game at a high level. Refereeing must be entirely professional.

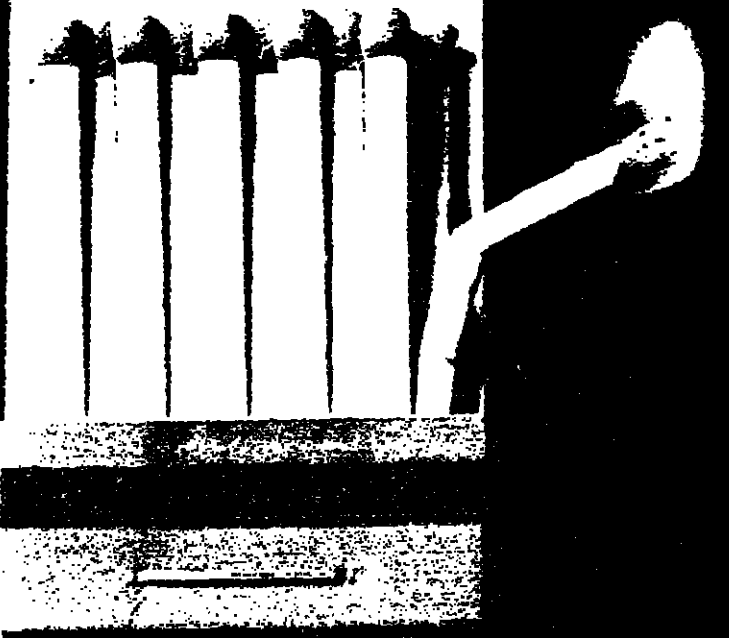
I have an additional suggestion that may help to improve the situation. In the U.S., referees at both the college and professional level are graded by the coaches after each game. This system could work very well here and should be implemented.

There are some Israeli referees who do a fine job representing Israel both at home and abroad. They have developed despite a poor system. If the level of officiating was as good as that of a few at the top, there wouldn't be a problem.

Mottie Dannenberg is a director of Hapoel Holon's basketball team.

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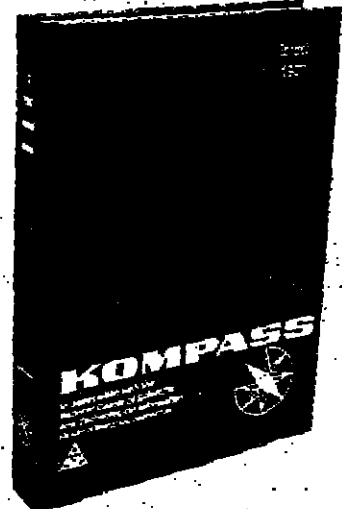
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Labour federation's 67th anniversary

Histadrut looks to the Nineties

By GAVRIEL BARTAL

Sixty-seven years after its establishment in Hannuka 1920, the Histadrut still has some good reasons to be happy: 1.6 million members, 43 national unions, thousands of works committees, 72 labour councils, 22 per cent of the working force employed in the labour economy, pension funds insuring 650,000 members, Mish'an old-age homes all over the country, Na'amat — the biggest women's organization in the country, the Amal vocational education network, the Hapoel sports organization, the working youth movement, the Consumers Protection Authority, and more.

Self-contentment is, however, extremely perilous to any social movement wishing to safeguard its future and continuity. That is also why the Histadrut must arrange — towards the Nineties and beyond — for a thorough revision of all its activities and organizational tools. The existing structure may still be sound, both pragmatically and ideologically, but definitely is in need of re-structuring.

TRADE UNION STRUCTURE TO BE REVISED:

The Histadrut's trade-union structure is at present being checked by a special committee headed by Prof. Abraham Friedman of the Hebrew University. Among the issues on its agenda are the bridging of the gap between political representation in national unions and direct representation in works and shop committees, clarifying the boundaries of authority between national unions and works committees and other subjects.

A solution will also have to be sought to the disparity between unions with only a few hundred members and works-committees representing several thousand workers.

PROFESSIONAL'S DILEMMA:

A continuing strain exists between the Histadrut and some of its professional unions (made up of academicians). Several non-Histadrut unions have expressed dissatisfaction with the last wage agreement in the public sector, which, they complain, narrowed the gap between the high and medium grades and the lower paid groups, and thus worsened the relative position of most of their members.

The Histadrut unions do not intend to secede from the Histadrut, since such a move would, almost certainly, bring about a split in their ranks. Moreover, the idea of cooperation and coordination between unions of professionals within the Histadrut is by no means contradictory to its concepts and principles.

THE PITFALLS OF PERSONAL CONTRACTS:

Another problem is the issue of personal contracts, prevailing, in particular, in the high-technology sophisticated industries.

A number of multinational corporations working in this country, and also some local enterprises in this field, prohibit their employees from joining a union, electing shop committees or signing a collective agreement.

Instead, they let them sign personal contracts, with seemingly initially attractive conditions, which most of them are tempted to accept. With advancing years, however, such an arrangement becomes a Sword of Damocles, as indeed, quite a few of the staff of some enterprises in the electronics sector have discovered, once the turn of dismissals reached this sector.

Most employers — in the absence of union protection — do not hesitate to oust older workers in favour of younger ones, disregarding the former's devoted services to the plant during the best years of their lives. Such an employee has no seniority rights and no address to turn to for help.

Young professionals, however, seem still to be seduced by personal contracts. Hence, it seems, there is a wide scope for a renewal of organizational effort of the Histadrut in this field.

STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN LABOUR ECONOMY:

The labour economy (Hevrat Ovdim), too, is undergoing substantial changes.

The Solel Boneh contracting company was merged with the Shikun Ovdim housing company, but almost half of Solel Boneh's staff retired or left.

Koor, the industrial concern, also reduced staff in some plants.

In the commercial and consumer sectors, the situation is relatively good, and Bank Hapoalim even improved its profitability. Labour economy as such is set to improve efficiency and its technological potential.

The dilemma of the Histadrut being a trade union organization and employer at the same time inevitably comes up, there and again.

In spite of all criticism, not a single case in which employees of Histadrut-owned enterprises would wish to change to private or other public ownership, has ever come to our attention.

KIBBUTZIM AND MOSHAVIM ARE CHANGING THEIR IMAGE:

A union-employer dilemma, per se, does not exist in the agricultural cooperative sector, since there the employees also own the enterprises.

Nonetheless, they encounter a severe financial crisis, caused principally by high interest rates.

KUPAT HOLIM IN NEED OF THOROUGH REVISION:

Kupat Holim, the Histadrut's health fund, is the main link between the Histadrut and most of its members. Hence, the Histadrut's image, in their eyes, is formed by the quality and standard of service they receive in the Histadrut's Kupat Holim.

Unless thorough re-structuring is carried out to solve the serious problems — the long waiting lists for surgery, as well as the "black medicine" lingering under the surface — the credibility of the Histadrut as sponsor and owner of Kupat Holim may be undermined.

It is true, of course, that the Treasury has drastically cut its share in Kupat Holim's budget — from 30 per cent in 1980 to 3 per cent this year. That, obviously, is the root of the matter; however, that in itself does not exempt the system from an administrative and organizational shake-up.

STRENGTHENING THE PENSION FUNDS:

The Histadrut's pension funds, with membership totalling 650,000, are also in need of energetic measures to secure their stability for the long-term.

Demographic changes within the insured population necessitate the increasing of both employers' and members' contributions, which are still substantially lower than in other industrial countries. Merging the funds could also be of importance provided it will cut red tape and simplify procedures.

The Histadrut's future depends on its ability to find its way into the hearts of the younger generation. The Histadrut's values — mutual aid, equality, social justice, first priority to workers' interests — appeal to the young.

We should consider the design of a flag for the Histadrut, a special flag for a unique organization. And we should also consider the re-designing of its symbol, the hammer. And the constitution should be revised.

To sum up: the Histadrut's unique structure stood up to many challenges since its establishment 67 years ago. There is still solid ground to trust in its capacity to uphold its leading role in the country's social and economic life — provided it keeps pace with current developments, learns from its mistakes and carries out all the reforms needed to re-shape and re-vitalize its system.

The writer is publications director of the Histadrut Executive Committee.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Bid to boost tourism in south Galilee

Tourism may help the crisis-ridden Jewish population of the Lower Galilee to bail out of its predicaments. The two main problems facing residents are the shrinkage of a Jewish presence and an acute decline in income from agriculture. Casting around for a solution, the local regional council reached a consensus that tourism might provide the answer to their needs. Private investors have been encouraged to expand the tourist infrastructure. Currently under construction are cable car services, a 220-room hotel and additional camping facilities.

Co-op offering

The Co-op chain said yesterday that it planned to raise \$12 million in local capital markets sometime next year through its Yahdav Ltd. subsidiary company.

Yahdav will raise the money, in Co-op's first public offering ever, through an issue of bonds to the public. The terms of the offering have not yet been disclosed, but Co-op said the money would be used to finance construction of factories.



Medallion shows leopard, flower

A double treat is in store for nature lovers. A medallion featuring a leopard on one side and a rose on the other has been issued by the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation this week. Minted in gold and silver and adorned with diamonds and sapphires, the two-sided pendants are embossed with

the phrase "Bold as a Leopard". Prices range from NIS 43 to NIS 265.

Ministry approves more expansions

The Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Centre has approved 13 more construction and expansion plans for industrial factories, representing a total investment of \$10 million.

Oded Shamir, head of the centre, said that establishment of two new factories, dealing in plastics and textiles, has also been approved for Mitzpe Ramon. An electronics plant in Tiberias, a meat factory in Yeroham and the expansion of a food factory in Beit Shemesh have also received an OK from the ministry.

Builders, workers sign work accord

A collective work agreement for the years 1986-88 was signed this week between representatives of the Contractors Association and the Construction Workers Union.

The agreement is designed to improve conditions of both workers and supervisors in the construction industry. According to the agreement, wages of daily workers will be increased by 10 per cent effective January 1, 1988.

Also effective from January 1, 1988 will be 20-100 per cent increases for per diem allowances, no-absence bonuses, and spouse increments.

'Electric rates not excessive'

Israeli industry is not paying inordinately high rates for electricity compared with its European counterparts, Israel Electric Corporation economists say.

Any comparison between the circumstances here and abroad is inappropriate, the economists contended. While Europe relies in part on both nuclear and hydroelectric power, and benefits from a reciprocal supply of electricity between countries when necessary, Israel has neither and works within a closed system.

Corex eyes new markets as value of rand drops

By KEN SCHACHTER

For The Jerusalem Post
TEL AVIV — Corex Management & Investment Ltd. executives, citing the rand's decline, Pretoria's limits on foreign investment and an uncertain political climate, say that they are edging away from their reliance on South African investment.

The company, which manages properties in Israel worth more than \$50 million, is seeking to penetrate the European and U.S. markets in part because of the depreciation of the yearly cap on foreign investment to Israel imposed by South Africa, said Gadi Golan, joint managing director.

A 15-year-old agreement between Jerusalem and Pretoria allows 40 million rand to be invested in approved projects in Israel. The rand's decline versus the dollar has cut the value of that 40 million rand by two thirds, to about \$20 million now, he said.

Aside from a shrinking pie, Golan said, there is the matter of a possible cooling of political relations.

"Assuming the situation between Israel and South Africa might take a turn for the worse, now is the time to start shifting, while the going is still good," he said.

At the same time, the company also is making an effort to diversify beyond its concentration in real estate management and development. One thrust involves attracting funds

from foreigners and Israeli investors who have foreign currency rights and managing their portfolios through investments in real estate, equity markets, commodities and bonds. Isaac Bloch, joint managing director with Golan, said one attraction of such a service is its comparatively low minimum investment of \$5,000.

"Normally, if you are very rich, you can go to one of the big houses in Europe and they'll manage your money, but if you have less than a quarter million dollars, they won't touch it," he said.

Further removed from the investment and management function is a venture capital project to develop bio-polymers that could help in the recovery of precious metals and the manufacture of paper (see related story).

Still, Corex's core business remains real estate. Among the company's current development projects are: a \$3 million apartment building in Jerusalem's Abu Tor neighbourhood; a \$3m. combined tourist flat and office building near the Tel Aviv beachfront; a \$4.8m. rental flat building in the Neveh Amirim section of Herzliya; and a 16,000-square-metre building for high-tech industry in Herzliya Pituah.

Corex also manages about 100 flats, two office buildings and 12 industrial buildings.

Aid for marginal mines

By KEN SCHACHTER

For The Jerusalem Post
TEL AVIV — A biotechnology agent under development by a Corex affiliate has had successful tests for use in the production of high-grade paper and company officials are hopeful that further research on the polymer will show potential in the recovery of gold, platinum and strategic metals from marginal mines.

The agent, Biodispersant, was developed by Mineral Biotech (Israel) Ltd., a research and development company whose business side is man-

aged by Corex. Biodispersant was developed by Eugene Rosenberg, Elona Ron, and others at Tel Aviv University.

In MBT's step-by-step plan, research into mineral recovery will gear up after the agent's uses in paper production are established. "The two major sources of gold in the world are South Africa and the Soviet Union," John Manning Director of Mineral Biotech said. "If something happened in South Africa, then the West would have to go to not-so-rich gold ores."

Foreign debt held steady to September

By AVI TEMKIN

Israel's foreign debt totalled \$25.73 billion at the end of September 1987, almost unchanged since the end of June, the Bank of Israel announced yesterday. Since the beginning of the year, the country's foreign liabilities have risen by some \$706m., or 2.8 per cent.

According to the Bank of Israel, some \$195m. of the total increase in the debt since the end of 1986 was due to the higher dollar value of debts denominated in European currencies.

The figures showed that the foreign debt of the private non-banking sector rose some \$50m. since the end of 1986. Most of these sums represented imports of short-term capital, which was attracted by the high interest rates in Israel. The private non-banking sector obligations at the end of September totalled \$4.48b.

The debts overseas of the banking system totalled \$5.09b., compared with \$4.89b. at the end of December 1986, and \$5.25b. at the end of September.

The foreign debt of the government totalled \$16.65b. at the end of September, compared with \$16.19b. at the end of 1986. The debt figures showed that in the first nine months of the year the government's debts to the foreign branches of Israeli banks dropped from \$429m. to \$250m. This decrease was offset by increases in other government debts.

During 1988 Israel will have to repay foreign debts of \$2.4b. and interest payments of some \$1.8b., the central bank said.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

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Netanya: Hadassah, 24 Herzl, 22243.
Kiryat Gat: Motzin, 64 Sderot Hashofim, Kiryat Motzin, 737243.
Haifa: Kiryat Eliezer, 6 Kikar Meyerhoff, 511707.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (pediatrics), Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, obstetrics, surgery, ophthalmology), Hadassah Scopus (orthopedics), Bikur Holim (E.N.T.).
Tel Aviv: Riklah (pediatrics, internal, surgery).
Netanya: Lamlado

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The National Poison Control Centre at Farman Hospital, phone (04) 523225, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Strike? One of a series (4,5)
- 8 Given an official seal of approval (6-7)
- 11 Outside bulling winner loses his head (5)
- 12 About right about the armistice (5)
- 13 Short time in a Channel Island with nothing on (5)
- 16 Lizard upset again going round the bend (6)
- 17 By way of being a seat of action (6)
- 18 Friend of Old Nick initially to call out (5)
- 19 Assign the cad to special service (6)

DOWN

- 20 Maximum effort at the end of the innings (3,3)
- 21 Trace a coaster (5)
- 24 Border flower material (5)
- 26 One in flight (5)
- 27 Be off-putting in a manner of speaking (13)
- 28 Drinks on the landlord at this pub? (4,5)
- 2 It expires at the end of three months (5)
- 3 Lancing's propelling force (6)
- 4 One who composes a golden-headed war god (6)
- 5 It may show up on time but is gone in a flash (5)

6 A third note's missing, query the amount possibly in Planck's method (7,6)

- 7 Real come-down for the astronaut (6,2,5)
- 9 Charge for being a citizen? (5,4)
- 10 Kind of work that provides little standing (9)
- 13 Meistersinger with talent; bags of it we hear (5)
- 14 Empty Indian city market-place (5)
- 15 It makes a good turnover for the craftsman (5)
- 22 Fancy one sees it in high dudgeon on the motorway (6)
- 23 Cuban leader's a star turn in company (6)
- 25 Scenery at the beginning of the month or later (5)
- 26 Channel on which the sun is reflected (5)

Yesterday's Solutions

STATIONER R C W
A I V EYEWASH
FLAYER D C R U I
L E R R O P O U T
E I G H T F O U R U E
S H A R E P E E A
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E E P E S T R I P E
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I L A N E S C O L A R
F L O A T E R I U I
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QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Print, 4 Cezanne, 8 Regatta, 9 Brine, 10 Outre, 11 Chamouis, 13 Rhea, 15 Advice, 17 Toledo, 20 Abet, 22 Durable, 24 Heave, 28 Usual, 27 Outright, 28 Duesaid, 29 Obama.
DOWN: 1 Ferrola, 2 Ingot, 3 Tushera, 4 Chance, 5 Zebra, 6 Noisome, 7 Evens, 12 Hata, 14 Heal, 16 Verruca, 18 Orhelo, 19 Overdue, 21 Behold, 22 Druid, 23 Balsa, 25 Argue.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 7 Caprice (6)
- 8 French port (6)
- 10 Uncultivated person (7)
- 11 High-born (5)
- 12 Finished (4)
- 13 Relative by marriage (2-3)
- 17 Robust (5)
- 18 Blonde (4)
- 24 Enraged (5)
- 23 Impromptu (7)
- 24 Carous (6)
- 25 Rip-roaring (6)

DOWN

- 1 Bird (7)
- 2 Wednesday (7)
- 3 Overthrow (5)
- 4 Contradict (7)
- 5 Type of cat (5)
- 6 Crooked (5)
- 9 Dior gown (anag.) (5-4)
- 14 Deep brown (7)
- 15 Card game (7)
- 16 Foretell (7)
- 19 Nearby (5)
- 20 Turn away (5)
- 21 Following (5)

EC, Israel sign trade protocol

By YOSSE LEMPKOWICZ

BRUSSELS — After months of hard negotiations and several delays, Israel and the European Community finally signed yesterday the trade protocol to last year's entry of Spain and Portugal into the trade block.

Diplomatic sources in Brussels said the new trade protocol would give Israel greater access to the EC market for its agricultural products and additional tariff cuts, in particular for winter cut-flower exports.

In addition, a separate financial protocol will enable Israel to receive about \$73 million in loans from the EC-controlled European Investment Bank.

The new protocols were signed by the Israeli Ambassador to Belgium and the EC, Avi Primor, and the 12 EC representatives.

Two EC member states — Greece and Britain — had unofficially made progress on the separate issue of direct exports from the West Bank to the EC a condition for approving the new economic protocols with Israel.

But the two countries, who also protested against an Israeli tax on EC imports, lifted their veto late Monday after Israel and the Euro-

pean Commission signed an agreement on direct farm exports from the territories to the EC.

Under the terms of this agreement, agricultural exporters will be able to choose either to export their products directly or continue to export through Israel's marketing bodies, such as Agrexco.

An Israeli interministerial committee is to be set up to study the exporters' demands. France, the Netherlands and Britain have reportedly offered to help Palestinians set up export agencies to market their products directly. They will also offer Palestinians business advice.

Because of several delays, the signing of the EC-Israel trade protocol comes too late for its ratification at this week's session of the European Parliament, EC sources said. As a result ratification, as well as the practical implementation of the protocol, may be postponed until January, which would mean Israeli exporters, especially those of cut flowers, missing tariffs cuts for the lucrative Christmas trade.

Primor travelled to Strasbourg yesterday to try to press the European Parliament to discuss ratification at an emergency debate tomorrow.

Egged, gov't reach operating agreement

By JONATHAN KARP

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV — Transport Minister Haim Corfu and Finance Minister Moshe Nissim yesterday approved a statement of principles for a 10-year operating agreement with the Egged bus cooperative.

The agreement establishes a framework for government aid to the cooperative and allows Egged to buy 200 new buses each year over the next decade. But the document signed by the ministers lists only broad guidelines, and negotiations are to continue to complete the full operating agreement, which the two sides have sought since the last one expired on August 31, 1986.

"This is just a memorandum," a Treasury spokesman said yesterday. "It will take at least another few months to finish the work."

The agreement should, however, pave what has been a somewhat rocky negotiating road.

According to Egged officials, the agreement does not fix subsidy levels, which is left to the government, but rather lays out the framework for an "input basket" of equipment,

fuel, salary, operation and development expenses. The government will base its contribution on this basket.

The agreement also resolves the critical question of financing the 1,100 buses bought by Egged during the past five years. All of Egged's previous demands were waived, and the government consented to pay 80 per cent of the principal, with Egged bearing the remainder plus interest.

Other features of the agreement include the complete separation of Egged from most of its subsidiaries and companies owned by its members. The government demanded this measure to prevent having to subsidize private companies under Egged's control.

The operating agreement also provides a framework for raising salaries of Egged's non-member employees and declares the right of the Transport Ministry's controller to expand or reduce the public transport network on the basis of need.

Bus fares are not included in the agreement and changes could hinge on the outcome of the government's budget debate.

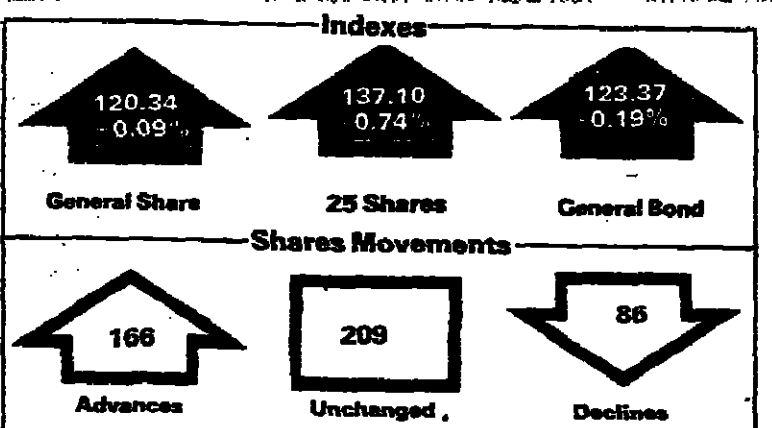
State Comptroller to investigate banks' merger

BY AVI TEMKIN

The Knesset State Control Committee yesterday asked State Comptroller Ya'acov Maltz to investigate what led the Treasury and the Knesset Finance Committee to approve a proposed merger of the Agriculture Bank and the Bank for Industrial Development.

The committee yesterday decided to approach the comptroller after hearing motions by MK Yair Taban (Mapam) and MK Dan Tichon (Liberal).

Taban complained that the Knesset Finance Committee had been presented with inaccurate figures and had been misled. He said Maltz should examine whether the information that was made available to the committee was accurate.



Selected Prices

Name Price Volume % change

Commercial Banks

(part of arrangement)

Bank Leumi 100.00 100.00

Bank Hapoalim 100.00 100.00

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Statistics

General Share (last 1000) 121.97 -0.47

Non-arranged 121.97 -0.47

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Financial Banks 121.97 -0.47

Insurance 121.97 -0.47

Commerce & Services 121.97 -0.47

Real Estate & Ag. 121.97 -0.47

Industrial 121.97 -0.47

Food & Tobacco 121.97 -0.47

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Oil Exploration 121.97 -0.47

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Bond Indices

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Arik by candle-light

WITH MUCH of the land still in riotous disarray, it was just what the riot-makers would have ordered had it been within their power. As it happened, it was Ariel Sharon, professional Israeli super-patriot, who volunteered to pour such fresh fuel as they might desire on their bonfires.

To be sure, it was all in style for Mr. Sharon: to consecrate the new house he fashioned for himself as industry and trade minister in, of all places, the Moslem Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, and to do this in the massive company of political friends with the world television cameras focussing on his shindig while cross-cutting to scenes of blood-shedding in Khan Yunis and stone-throwing in Jerusalem.

Mr. Sharon himself could probably not have been more delighted. Against the background of Arab resistance to the Jewish people's sovereign hold over its own Land, from the river to the sea, he was, as it were, demonstrating Israel's vim and vigour and determination to press on with the happy war against all enemies, whoever they might be.

Not all of Mr. Sharon's new neighbours, most of whom are still Moslem, were overjoyed by his move into their quarter. But they count for little. He was, after all, heartily welcomed by students of the Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva, right around the corner, who are readying themselves for their duties on the day when the Temple Mount is cleared of unwanted gentile structures.

More important, Mr. Sharon saw himself, so he said, as setting an example for fellow-Jews who, by buying properties in the Moslem Quarter and settling there, would be making that part of the Old City safe for devout Jews on their way to and from the Western Wall. No mealy-mouthed talk of coexistence à la Teddy Kollek. Judaization of the quarter is the new Sharon slogan, even if it violates a declared national policy of keeping all the Old City neighbourhoods religiously and ethnically homogenous.

It might, of course, take time for his grand vision to turn into reality. In the meantime, a contingent of 34 policemen will be on hand to guard the visionary lifestyle of the minister in his new apartment — at the public's expense.

Those guards represent the real practical meaning of Mr. Sharon's act: a provocation for the purpose of serving the minister's political ambitions by rallying the right-wing faithful.

But for those not disposed to defile the Hanukkah celebration of Jewish freedom by turning it into celebration of the unfreedom of another people, Mr. Sharon's imperial act was simply obscene.

No thinking needed

THE principal mental effort of the government, or at least those ministers who happen to be in the country, in confronting the unprecedented disturbances in Gaza, seems to be devoted to diminishing their importance. What has become crucial is the semantic demonstration that they do not constitute civil rebellion.

The difficulty, of course, is that the disturbances also do not constitute terrorism, that most convenient category in which to bury resistance. After all, terrorists are not exactly 17-year old school boys who take on Israeli soldiers and military vehicles with stones.

Not even the notion of an external terrorist guiding hand can fully displace the need to acknowledge that what is happening in Gaza is popular resistance to occupation. What is left, therefore, for Mr. Shamir and his colleagues is simply to assure themselves by whatever means necessary that the scope of that resistance remains limited and manageable.

Thus reinforced, they can believe that civic order will soon be restored, and sustain their fundamental policy premise that Israel can continue, permanently, to rule in Gaza.

For if the ministers believed that the present disturbances, even after a lull, will only be followed by more and worse in the future, then some hard thinking and some really difficult decisions would be required.

There might be those, like Mr. Peres, who would suggest a political way out. But then he is busy in Brazil. Or those like Mr. Rabin, who would suggest still more bullets. But he is in Washington. Or those, not yet ready to reveal themselves, who might opt for that newly fashionable word "transfer."

But as long as there is no civil rebellion, it is the media that can be blamed for inciting the rioters. No more thinking is required than that. And, praise the Lord, no more decisions.

ARAB MOVE

(Continued from Page One)

eve of the War of Independence and, despite its name, most of the houses had been owned by Arabs who had rented them to Jews. Nevertheless, the restoration of a viable Jewish Quarter was viewed by a broad consensus as a prime national interest.

Mayor Teddy Kollek, who had advocated removal of all Arabs from the Jewish Quarter — even those who could trace their ownership back many generations — attempted on the same grounds to block the return of Jews to the Moslem Quarter where some 30 Jewish-owned properties had been identified. He was successful for more than a decade but the pattern was broken in 1979 by a yeshiva preparing priests (cohanim) for the imminent coming of the Messiah.

The yeshiva took over the premises of a former yeshiva in the Moslem Quarter that had been preserved intact — including its library — through 19 years of Jordanian rule by its faithful Arab watchman.

Two more yeshivas followed — one of them also for cohanim and one, a "penitent" yeshiva for the newly religious made up largely of ex-convicts and other worldly innocents. Where the cohanim sought friendly relations with their Arab neighbours, the penitent yeshiva was a source of ongoing strife. In addition, a score of Jewish families quietly settled in the Moslem Quarter.

The high-profile entry of Ariel Sharon is a departure from this settlement pattern. It is not a simple quest for living space — any space — as the case with the yeshivot.

Nor is it simply an assertion of Jewish presence — other Jews could certainly have been found to occupy the apartment.

Sharon has said his presence will strengthen Israeli security in the Old City but an old security hand like him must be the first to recognize this as transparently specious. The considerable security forces that will have to guard the house have to be taken from elsewhere where the police command — guided by long experience — believe they can be more effective in keeping order and saving lives.

Sharon's move would make sense if he was intent on making life so miserable for the Arabs of the Old City by his presence that they would move out. He, however, has never given any indication that this is his strategy and has often spoken of the need for Arabs and Jews to find a way of living together peacefully in this land.

There is then no rational explanation that can be seen for the minister of industry and trade choosing to insert himself and his wife into a two-room apartment in the midst of a medieval neighbourhood surrounded by 20,000 angry Arabs where he will be a constant focus of antagonism in a city that has learned to live together remarkably well during the past 20 years.

Lacking such explanation, one must assume there is a pressing personal need — political or psychological — to be provocative and outrageous. He has succeeded not only in provoking and outraging the Arabs but, counting his Likud opponents, leaving a clear majority of his fellow Jews stammering.

INTERNATIONAL affairs are full of anachronisms. Some are steeped in history, others, as it were, in "ideology," Realpolitik or psychology. Then there are some for which there seems to be no reason at all, though all manner of acrobatics are performed to justify them.

Israel has had its fill of these more than most. To this day, there are wide areas on the globe which, in terms of diplomatic convention, are *judeo-rein*. With the possible, albeit regrettable, exception of the Arab countries, no valid reason exists for this negation of universality in the life of nations.

Of late, there has been some encouraging progress — modest as yet, but steady. Spain has at last come out of its off-side position and established full relations with Israel. Two East European countries have taken first steps towards normalization, and others may follow their example. Some movement, however guarded, can be perceived in Beijing, and the map of black Africa shows fewer white spots today than it did several years ago.

All this is gratifying. The change of pace in our foreign policy is showing results and paying dividends.

One anomaly has been especially annoying for many years. If, as there are grounds for believing, it is to be removed in the near future,

THE ARTICLE "Demography and abortion" by my colleague and friend, Professor Shimon M. Glick (*The Jerusalem Post*, October 11) merits respectful consideration. In the context of an anti-abortion argument, he was led, being a realist, to the presentation of a concrete proposal: that a systematic attempt be made "to suggest adoption as an option to a pregnant woman who does not want her child."

Among the arguments supporting this proposal were: the moral case for the fetus being recognized as "a living separate being"; the unfounded fears which lead some women to seek abortion, and the ignorance of the dangers of abortion and its health consequences; the "humane and compassionate" solution to the problem of "thousands of childless couples"; and the demographic problem of the Jewish people.

Since Professor Glick is not just an ordinary citizen, but one of Israel's leading physicians, and is identified as dean of the Ben-Gurion University Faculty of Health Sciences and director of Kupat Holim in the Negev, his argument warrants particular consideration. But by the same token, identification by his title also imposes on him a very heavy responsibility.

I will not go into the five or six factual statistical mistakes in his article. (For example, he writes, "The abortions under the clause 'danger to the infant' has risen 40 per cent in two years." The true figure is 22.5 per cent for the years in question, 1983-85, and no mention is made of the fact that in 1982 a decline of 9.5

Hanukka and the Greek connection

Yohanan Meroz

that will be most welcome. I am referring to the relations between Athens and Jerusalem.

THIS IS NO essay on the comparative history of Greeks and Jews, even though there are innumerable elements for comparison and analogy: even affinity, past and present. Greece's attitude to Israel in the last 40 years did not stem from historic grudge, spiritual incompatibility or economic rivalry, but from considerations of what she regarded as overriding political interests: the fortunes of Greek communities in Arab lands, Cyprus, the situation in the Aegean.

None of these, of course, concerns Israel in any way, but the enlistment of Arab good-will and/or voting strength at the UN seemed to preclude the establishment of fully normal relations with the Jewish state.

Recognition of the dubiousness of that conception appears to have gained ground in Athens, as — amongst other things — the recent visit of the Greek foreign minister to this country showed.

Israeli governments have let it be known time and again, and in sincerity, that they favour the maintenance of correct relations with *all* the parties to the Arab-Israeli issue. Moreover, whoever cherishes the hope of playing a role in our region, no matter how marginal, ought to know that it has no chance of fulfilment without an at least formally balanced position. Even the mighty USSR may be beginning to realize this self-evident truth. That the message has, by all the tokens, been understood at Athens, should give

Foreign Minister Peres more than routine satisfaction.

THE FUTURE relations between Greece and Israel must not be governed by ancient memories — though the Hanukka lights bring them vividly to mind — nor by the crucible of "Hellenization," the first major challenge of assimilation the Jewish people had to meet.

They should be based on geographic proximity, common Mediterranean interests, cooperation (at times, perhaps, even friendly competition) in science and agriculture, tourism and commerce, and last but not least, the legacy of, and faith in, humanism and democracy which the prophets of Israel and the sages of Greece gave to man.

As has already been said, Greece's close ties with the Arab countries are no stumbling-block. While it is axiomatic that a lasting

peace in the region can be achieved only through direct negotiations, it is also conceivable that, due to her standing Greece may be able to contribute to convincing the Arab leaders of the logic and expediency of that assumption. In her own modern history she has had more than one opportunity to prove its value.

But beyond political exigencies, and without delving into three millennia of Greek and Jewish history even cool, unsentimental minds will appreciate the exciting prospect of Athens and Jerusalem finally "coming to terms."

IN THE opening chapter of his fascinating study *The Greeks*, the eminent British classical scholar H.B.F. Kitto wrote more than 35 years ago:

It was the fusion of what was most characteristic in these two cultures — the religious earnestness of the Hebrews with the reason and humanity of the Greeks — which was to form the basis of later European culture.

Is it altogether unrealistic to believe that the truth of this premise may be established once more? Whatever the answer, there can be no doubt that the removal of the anomaly in the relations between our two nations opens new vistas in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The writer is a former senior Israeli diplomat.

The scare tactics of the anti-abortionists

Aaron Antonovsky

per cent took place.) I have called these errors to his attention. I mention them here because I think that collectively, the slight errors add to the emotional ambience Professor Glick has sought to create. It is this ambience I wish to scrutinize.

GLICK IS fully entitled to his moral position on abortion though, as an expert in medical ethics, he is well acquainted with the very serious arguments of those who oppose it. And when he criticizes his medical colleagues for providing inadequate information and for running assembly-line type hearings, no one can be more in agreement than I.

It would, though, seem more appropriate for these charges to have been brought before the Israel Medical Association and other appropriate bodies, to which he has full entrée.

Glick is, justly, moved by the pain of thousands of childless couples desperately wishing to adopt. But it seems to me that a surely unintended blindness comes through in his article to the pain of others.

To write that "many women re-

gard abortion as innocuous as a trip to the hairdresser," is a painful insult. Even a woman who has far from adequate information about the dangers of abortion finds the experience most difficult.

The very proposal that pregnant women be urged to commit themselves to "mutually agreed-upon adoption," i.e., to surrogate motherhood, shows a profound lack of empathy and understanding for what it means to carry a baby to term and then give it up to a stranger, even when the baby has been unwanted. And I can just imagine the kind of people who would be delighted to volunteer to be the intermediaries in such contractual commitments, and the scare tactics they would adopt.

IT IS NOT, however, the fact that Glick has erred on the more private plane of understanding human beings that is here of major concern. It is, rather, the policy implications of his article that trouble me profoundly.

ly. There are, it seems to me, two major errors in his article; one of omission and one of commission.

The article as a whole, though one of the mildest in the many attempts to create an anti-abortion climate, shares with them a total failure to even mention in passing the central tragedy of the story of abortions in Israel: the extreme inadequacy of the health care institutions in providing a high level of family planning education and facilities.

This is no less true in the Negev, where Glick has been a leading figure in the health services since 1974, than elsewhere in Israel. It is far more important, if one is concerned about the health of women and the dignity of the fetus, to improve our miserable record in this sphere than to promote surrogate motherhood.

FINALLY, and perhaps most important, the sin of commission. Professor Glick opened his article by referring to "the existential threat, now self-induced, that faces the Jewish people in its own land." One might have thought that he was leading to a discussion of the catastrophic blindness of those forces in

Israeli life, from Shamir to Levinger, who see no particular relationship between the search for peace and the existential threat to our existence. But no. It is the loss by abortions of "perhaps as many as several million potential Jewish citizens" that points to "the collective suicide of the Jewish people in its homeland." The proposal made is "essential for our survival. Our future depends on it."

These are not quotes taken out of context. They are the very heart of the article, of the ambience Professor Glick has sought to create. And I submit, this is a dangerous red herring. It is one thing to urge provision of full information, or even to make a proposal for surrogate motherhood. It is a very different matter to contribute to a campaign of scare tactics.

Professor Glick and I both made aliyah from the U.S. because we are profoundly concerned for the future of the Jewish people, both quantitatively and qualitatively. To make a proposal that, at best, is most controversial from the human point of view, and has to do with at most several hundred births a year, is one thing. It is legitimate, though it is not a proposal I can accept. It is, however, misleading, to put it mildly, to locate such a proposal in an ambience of threats to our national survival.

The writer is the Kunin-Lunfeld Professor of Medical Sociology in the Ben-Gurion University Faculty of Health Sciences.

READERS' LETTERS

TESTIMONY IN SECURITY CASES

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - In his article of November 25, Yosef Goell supports the deportation of Mubarak Awad. One of Goell's arguments is that, if Mubarak Awad does not appeal to the Israeli court, this should be taken as evidence of the weakness of his case.

To strengthen this argument, Goell writes: "This reminds me of the case of the former editor of the *Jerusalem Arab daily*, A-Sharab, Akram Haniyeh, who was deported nearly a year ago on security charges... A major public opinion campaign was launched at the time to prevent his deportation, but in the end Haniyeh preferred to be deported rather than appeal to an Israeli court."

I would like to refresh the readers' memories and add a few details which Mr. Goell did not, for some reason, see fit to mention in his article. Akram Haniyeh did appeal to the High Court of the State of Israel. He was ready to defend himself against any charges which would be brought against him, to dispute any evidence which would be presented to substantiate these charges. But Israeli law and Israeli justice, of which we citizens of Israel have grown so proud, gave him no chance to do either.

The representative of the General Security Service (about whose truthfulness and trustworthiness we heard in the Landau Commission's report) came to the High Court of Israel and declared that all the evidence against Haniyeh was classified and that neither the accused nor his lawyer was allowed to see it. This claim was accepted by the judges of

our High Court, while it would have been laughed out of court by any of their colleagues in any part of that free world of which Israel claims to be a part.

At this juncture, where he was not allowed to know any of the charges against him, to dispute any evidence, to cross-examine any witnesses, when the whole proceedings turned into farce, Akram Haniyeh decided to withdraw his appeal and not to let the High Court put a stamp of legitimacy on his deportation.

The fact that Haniyeh did so, and that Palestinians now feel unsure of being able to get a fair hearing in Israeli courts, does not reflect badly on the Palestinians, but on the Israeli judicial system and on Israeli society as a whole.

AMIKAM NETANELLY
Tel Aviv.

Yosef Goell comments: Mr. Netanelly is correct as to his facts, but wrong in his conclusions. Divulging secret evidence and the identity of their suppliers in terrorism cases obviously involves the risk of inviting deadly retaliation against those witnesses. It is yet another example of the difficult choice between sticking punctiliously to the fine points of the law of evidence in "normal" criminal cases, and the need to fight "highly abnormal" terrorism.

In the final analysis, it boils down to whether or not one trusts the Israel High Court of Justice to prevent a miscarriage of justice even in handling secret evidence. I do. Perhaps Mr. Netanelly does not.

REINCARNATION

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - Norman Mailer states that the reason he "is not the least bit religious" is because he believes that "there is nothing in Jewish theology..." that deals with reincarnation (November 27). He will be happy to know that the Torah certainly does deal with reincarnation and he can read about it in, for example, the prayers before retiring at night: "...I hereby forgive anyone who has angered me... in this incarnation or in any other..."

Mr. Mailer "spent 11 years writing about ancient Egypt." He had better hurry if he wants to give equal time to his own people.

GUTMAN LOCKS
Jerusalem.

THE AUCKLAND JEWISH COMMUNITY

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - It was disturbing to come to Jerusalem from Auckland, New Zealand, for an international conference of the Jewish media, bent on discussing the often-distorted reflection of Israel abroad, to find, in *The Jerusalem Post*, a distorted picture of the Auckland Jewish community ("The crucible of convenience" by Ron Kampeas - November 11).

Kampeas charges that community on the basis of previous erroneous reports, with callous indifference to Lorraine and Aaron Cohen, drug addicts who face a tragic fate as a result of their conviction in Malaysia for trafficking. Kampeas claims that "Auckland's tight-knit community virtually sentenced Aaron Cohen to jail when he was nine years old." This extravagant accusation is as groundless as it is offensive.

Far from being disowned by the community, neither Lorraine nor Aaron Cohen was ever a part of it. Neither of them is, or was, Jewish. Lorraine Cohen has long been divorced from her Jewish husband, who himself has had no contact for many years with the community. Lorraine is said to be deriving some consolation from her Christian faith.

LESLEY MAX, Secretary,
Auckland Jewish Community
Tel Aviv (Auckland).

IMMIGRANT DOCTORS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - I refer to your report of November 18, "Tsur challenges new rules on 'olim' doctors" according to which Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur objects to these regulations on the grounds that they may seriously harm absorption efforts.

It seems to me that if a physician is indeed qualified to practise medicine, he should have nothing to worry about as such exams could be given in his native tongue. On the other hand, if he is not qualified, we, the potential patients, have plenty to worry about.

What, Mr. Tsur, is more important: bringing more people into the country, or the health and possibly life of those already here?

SARAH GREEN
Jerusalem.

SUCCESSFUL COMPOSITION

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - On November 29, we heard here the world premiere of *Kaddish*, a work composed by Tzvi Avni and played by the Chamber Orchestra of Jerusalem with cello soloist Shmuel Magen. This beautiful work was deeply moving and splendidly orchestrated. It was an instant hit and had to be repeated for the fully packed house.

I would like to add that the town of Metz has a regular festival of contemporary music, for which new works are created every year, and

that its audiences are quite sophisticated.

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